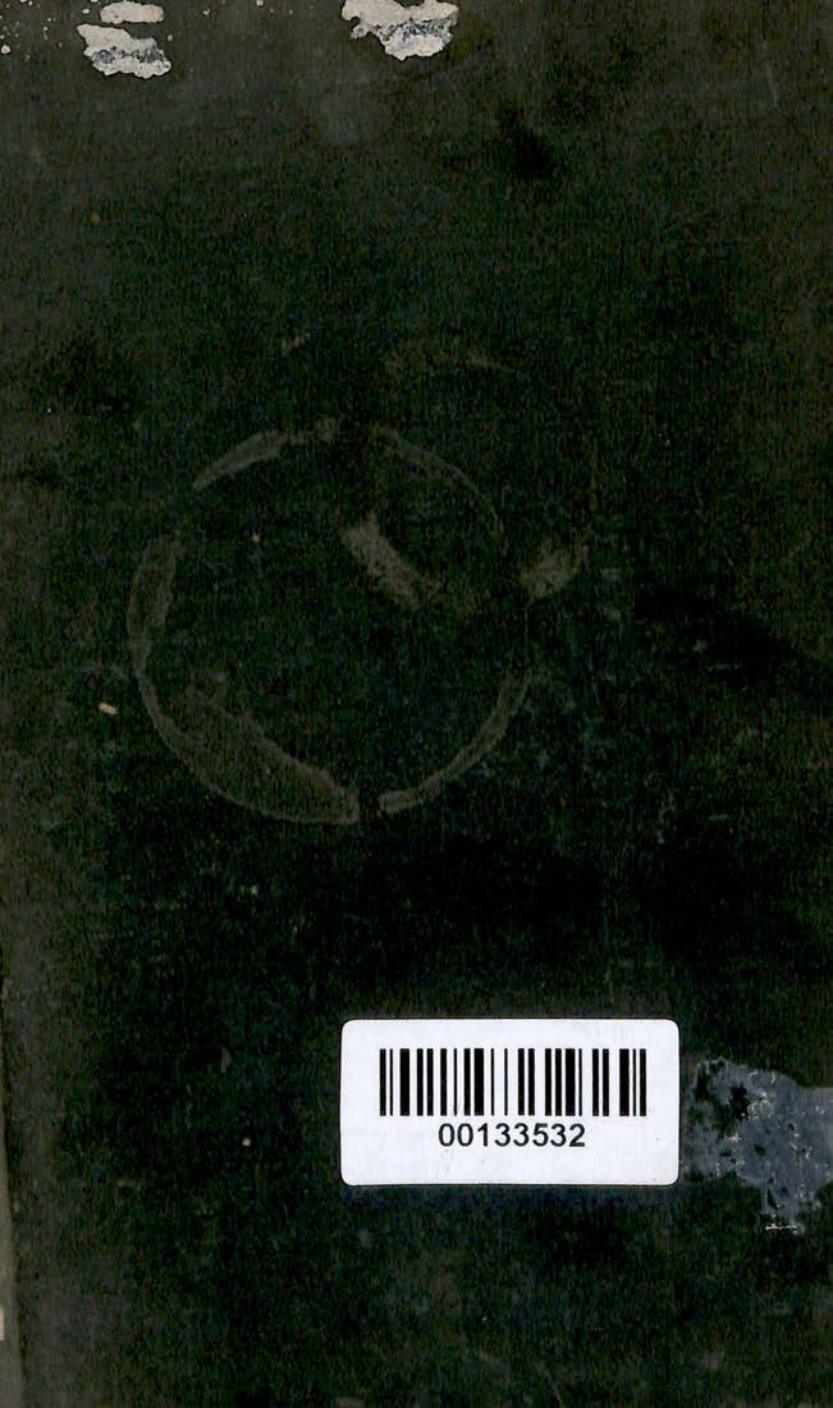
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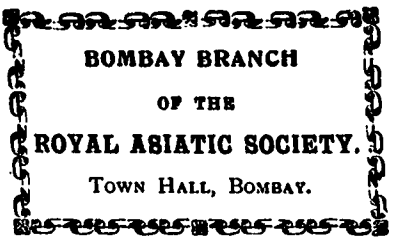

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REPORT

OF THE

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FOR THE

133532

YEAR 1861-62.

PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON THE 30TH SEPTEMBER 1862.

Bombay:
PRINTED FOR THE CHAMBER BY
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CONTENTS.

	Page
Members, &c. of the Chamber	i
Rules and Regulations of the Chamber	iii
Tonnage Scale at Bombay	vii
Rules and Regulations for Measurement by Callipers, upon shipments to Great Britain of Cotton, &c. from Bombay	xi
General Rates of Commission	xiii
Ship Freight Inwards	xv
General Meetings of the Chamber in 1861-62	xvii
ANNUAL REPORT of the Chamber	xxiii
General Remarks	xxv
Cotton Cultivation	xxvi
Railways	xxviii
Telegraph Department	xxxvi
Pilotage and Harbour Management	xxxvii
Overland Mail Arrangements	xxxvii
Defenceless State of Bombay	xxxviii
Import Duties	xxxix
Stamp Duties	xl
Fairs	xl
Public Holidays	xli
Distress in the Cotton Manufacturing Districts	xli
European Pauperism	xlii

Page

ANNUAL REPORT *(continued)*.

Mr. Forjett xliii
Miscellaneous xliii
Funds of the Chamber xliii
Conclusion xliv
Balance Sheet xlviii

APPENDICES 1

CONTENTS OF APPENDICES.

A.—COTTON CULTIVATION.

PRIZES. Page

From Secretary to Chamber, to Under-Secretary to Government, regarding Rules for Competition 3

Resolution passed by Government, on a letter from the Chamber of Commerce, with respect to the best mode of disposing of the reward authorised by the Government of India 4

From Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding copy of above resolution 7

From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, regarding discriminate award of Prizes 8

From Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to Revenue Commissioner N. D., forwarding copy of foregoing letter of Chamber 9

From ditto, to Secretary to Chamber, on the same subject .. 10

CULTIVATION IN KATTYWAR.

From Superintendent Gaekwar's Contingent in Kattywar, to Secretary to Chamber, giving particulars of trials of American and Egyptian Seed, and forwarding samples of produce for opinion 10

From Secretary to Chamber, in reply, and furnishing report on quality of samples 12

CULTIVATION IN REWA KANTA.

From Political Agent Rewa Kanta Agency, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding specimens of Cotton for report 13

From Secretary to Chamber, in reply 13

From Assistant Political Agent, to Secretary to Chamber, intimating despatch of Cotton to Bombay for sale.. 14

From Secretary to Chamber, in reply 15

From Assistant Political Agent, to Secretary to Chamber, on the area available for cultivation, and probable yield per acre .. 15

Page

SUGGESTIONS BY THE COTTON SUPPLY ASSOCIATION.

From Secretary of State for India, to Governor in Council Bombay, forwarding copies of Circular of Association as to requisites for the improvement of Indian Cotton 16
Circular of the Association 17
From Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, handing copies of letter from Secretary of State and accompaniments 18

CULTIVATION IN SIND.

From Manager Sind Cotton Cultivation Company, to Secretary to Chamber, making inquiry regarding Prizes offered by Government 19
From Secretary to Chamber, in reply 20
From Manager Sind Company, to Secretary to Chamber, on same subject 20
From ditto, to ditto, on the subject of cleaning Cotton 21
From Secretary to Chamber, in reply 22
From Secretary Sind Company, to Secretary to Chamber, reporting unprecedented success with Egyptian Seed 22
From ditto, to ditto, on subject of Rules for Competition for Prizes 23
Memo. from Collector of Kurrachee, to Manager Sind Company.. 24
From Secretary to Chamber, to Manager Sind Company, on the subject of the Prizes 24

ADULTERATION OF COTTON AND SEEDS.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, regarding establishments for examining and stamping Cotton Bales at Surat and Broach.. 25
Extract from Proceedings of Government on same subject .. 26
From Acting Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding copy of extract 27
From ditto, to ditto, on the subject of further legislation to check fraudulent adulteration 28
From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Under-Secretary to Government, on the extension of the stamping system to other ports 29
From ditto, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, bringing to notice the practice of adulterating Seeds.. 30
From Acting Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, in reply 30
From ditto, to ditto, on measures adopted to prevent adulteration of Cotton, and forwarding copy of communication from Commissioner of Police N. D., and accompaniments 31
From Commissioner of Police N. D., to Acting Secretary to Government 32
From Acting Joint Magistrate of Broach, to Police Commissioner N. D. 32
From Commissioner of Police N. D., to Acting Joint Magistrate of Broach 34

Page
From Magistrate of Khandesh, to First Assistant Magistrate. 35
From ditto, to Police Commissioner N. D. 36
From Commissioner of Police N. D., to Magistrate of Khandesh 37

B.—ROADS AS FEEDERS TO RAILWAYS.

Bill to Promote Communication.
From Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, drawing attention of Chamber to Bill on the subject 38
From Deputy Secretary to Government, Legislative Department, to Secretary to Chamber, requesting early reply to former letter respecting promotion of communication 39
From Secretary to Chamber, to Secretary to Government.. .. 39

C.—TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

Commercial Messages.
From Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, transmitting copy of letter from Government of India on the subject of free transmission of weekly messages between Chambers of Bombay and Kurrachee 40
Letter from Government of India 40
From Secretary to Chamber, Bombay, to Secretary Kurrachee Chamber, on the same subject 41
From Secretary to Government of India, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding copy of letter addressed to Secretary Bengal Chamber 42
Letter referred to 42
From Secretary to Government of India, to Secretary Bengal Chamber, forwarding extract of communication from Colonel Douglas on the subject of imperfect communication 49
Extract 49
From Chairman of Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, regarding discontinuance of transmission throughout India of telegrams containing public news 51
Further communication on same subject 53
Reply 54
From Secretary to Government of India, to Director General of Telegraphs, communicating rules for transmission of messages between Galle and Bombay 54
From Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, regarding messages by railway telegraphs 55
From Secretary to Chamber, to Secretary to Government, on the subject of restrictions 56
From Secretary Bengal Chamber, to Secretary Bombay Chamber, proposing arrangements for telegrams of latest intelligence between London and Alexandria 57
Reply, with memo. of articles to be quoted in the messages .. 57

Page

From Secretary Bengal Chamber, to Secretary Bombay Chamber, on the same subject, and forwarding specimen message.. .. 59
Reply 61
From Secretary to Chamber, to Post Master, Bombay, complaining of delay in delivery of telegrams arriving by mail steamers .. 62
From Post Master, Bombay, to Secretary to Chamber, in reply, and making suggestions 63
From Mr. H. Maxwell, Tellicherry, to Secretary to Chamber, on the subject of opening a telegraph station, and forwarding copy of letter to Secretary Planters' Association, Wynaad 64
Letter referred to 64
From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, recommending a complete line of coast telegraphic communication 65

D.—PILOTAGE AND HARBOUR MANAGEMENT.

Buoying of Shoals, &c.

From Second Magistrate of Police, to Secretary to Chamber, on the subject of Buoys 66
From Secretary to Chamber, in reply 67
From ditto, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, on the inefficiency of Pilot establishment 68
List of Casualties from 21st June 1861 to 21st June 1862 .. 70
From Acting Secretary to Government, to Chamber, and to Conservator of the Port, forwarding copy of Resolution of Government on a Report on the Lighthouses, &c. of Bombay Harbour 71
From Master Attendant and Conservator of the Port, to Commissioner of Customs, reporting on above subjects.. .. 71
From Master Attendant, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding Sketch of Bombay Harbour and approaches 78
From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Secretary to Government, expressing opinion of desirability of appointment of a Commission to consider the general question 78
From Acting Secretary to Government, to Commander-in-Chief I. N., and to Chamber, forwarding copy of letter from Mr. Kennelly, proposing a System of Lighthouses and Buoys to facilitate entrance to the Harbour 79
Mr. Kennelly's letter 79
List of Vessels wholly wrecked, at or near the entrance of Bombay Harbour, between May 1840 and June 1862 .. 80
List of Vessels partially wrecked, between November 1849 and August 1859 80
Proposed Bombay Direction Screw Pile Lighthouse by Mr. F. Johnson 93
Estimate of cost 94
From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Secretary to Government, in acknowledgment of letter and accompaniment 95

Page

E.—MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

TRANSMISSION OF MAILS ACROSS INDIA.

From Post Master General, to Secretary to Chamber 97

CLOSING OF OVERLAND MAIL PACKETS.

From Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding copies of papers, and requesting opinion of Chamber on the subject 98

From Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to Post Master General, intimating detention till Monday of mail steamer, on account of mail day falling on Sunday 99

Memorial of Calcutta Trades Association to Governor-General in Council, praying for discontinuance of the practice of closing overland mails on the Sabbath 99

From Secretary to Government of India, to Master of Calcutta Trades Association 100

From ditto, to Director General of Post Office in India .. 101

Message from Post Master General, Bombay, to Director General of Post Office in India 102

Letter from ditto to ditto 102

From ditto, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government .. 103

Extract of letter from London Post Office to Under-Secretary of State for India, declining to comply with request of Calcutta Trades Association 104

From Under-Secretary to Government of India, to Master Calcutta Trades Association 105

Memo. from ditto to Government of Bombay.. 105

From Acting Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, requesting opinion on detention of the mails.. .. 106

From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, regarding sudden alteration of date of departure of mail steamer 106

From Acting Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, in reply, and reiterating request for Chamber's opinion on Sunday mails 107

From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, in reply 107

F.—DEFENCELESS STATE OF BOMBAY.

MEMORIAL OF CHAMBER.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, enclosing copy of Memorial to Principal Secretary of State.. 109

From ditto, to Chief Secretary to Government of India, forwarding copy of ditto 109

Memorial of Chamber.. 110

Reply of Secretary to Government, Bombay 111

Reply of Secretary to Government of India 112

Page

G.—IMPORT DUTIES.

ALTERATIONS.

From Acting Deputy Commissioner of Customs, to Secretary to Chamber, enclosing copy of official telegram regarding alterations in Import Duties 113
Telegram from Home Secretary, Calcutta, to Chief Secretary, Bombay 113
From Acting Deputy Commissioner of Customs, to Secretary to Chamber, in continuation of former letter 114
From ditto, to ditto, forwarding copy of telegram on subject of Piece Goods 114
Telegram 115

DUTY ON WINES.

From Nasmyth, Macdonald, & Co., to Secretary to Chamber, regarding difficulty in fixing rate of duty to be charged on wines. 115
From Acting Commissioner of Customs, to Secretary to Chamber, asking opinion on samples of wine 116
From Secretary to Chamber, in reply 117

WORKING OF CUSTOMS ACT.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, on existing anomalies 117
From Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding copies of Report of Select Committee on Consolidated Customs Bill, and requesting opinion of Chamber thereon 118
From Secretary to Chamber, to Under-Secretary to Government. 119

H.—STAMP ACT.

BILL TO AMEND.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Chief Secretary to Government, suggesting delay of Report of Select Committee, to enable Chamber to express an opinion 121
From Acting Chief Secretary to Government, in reply 122
From Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, requesting Chamber to take into consideration the Schedules of Stamp Act also 123
From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, containing suggestions, &c... 123

I.—FAIRS.

MHYJEE FAIR.

From Acting Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, transmitting copy of Annual Report of Mhyjee Fair 127
Extract from Proceedings of Government, Judicial Department 127
Letter from Collector and Magistrate, Khandeish, to Revenue Commissioner N. D., enclosing Report of Superintendent of Mhyjee Fair.. 128

Page

Mhyjee Fair (continued).

Report of Superintendent 132
Appendix A to Report of Superintendent, giving list of Goods at the Fair 139
Appendix B to ditto, giving list of Goods remaining Unsold 153

Samlajee Fair.

From Acting Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding copy of Report on Samlajee Fair 154
From Political Agent, Mahee Kanta, to Acting Secretary to Government, reporting on the Fair 154
Appendix to Report, giving Statement of Goods brought, sold, and remaining unsold 159

J.—PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

Ten Day Holiday.

From Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, requesting opinion 164
Extract from Proceedings of Government of India on subject of Hindoo Holidays in Calcutta 165
From Secretary to Chamber, to Under-Secretary to Government, representing general inconvenience that would arise from cessation of business for such a lengthened period 168

K.—COTTON FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

Remittance to London.

From Chairman of Chamber, to Lord Mayor of London, requesting receipt and application of Bombay subscriptions 170
From Lord Mayor of London, to Chairman of Chamber, in reply 171

L.—EUROPEAN DESTITUTION.

Appointment of Committee.

From Offg. Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, requesting nomination of one or two Members .. 173
From Second Magistrate of Police, to Senior Magistrate, representing want of means for relief of destitute applicants 174
Minute by the Commander-in-Chief on the subject 175
From Secretary to Chamber, to Offg. Under-Secretary to Government, intimating appointment of two Members to Committee .. 178

M.—Mr. FORJETT.

Resignation.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, requesting that, if possible, Mr. Forjett's services be retained 179

Page
From Acting Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, representing inability of Government to comply with Chamber's wish 180
From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, on same subject 180
Resolution passed at Special General Meeting of Chamber .. 182
From Offg. Under-Secretary to Government, in reply 182

N.—MERINO WOOL.

REPORT ON SAMPLES.
From Mr. A. Grant, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding reports. 183
Report by J. L. Bowes and Brother, Wool Brokers, Liverpool 184
Report by G. R. Windeler, Wool Broker, London 185
From Secretary to Chamber, to Mr. A. Grant, returning thanks for reports 186
From ditto, to Acting Commissioner of Customs, handing copies of reports 187

O.—PETTY BROKERAGE ON CHARTERS.

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE.
From Peel, Cassels, & Co., to Chairman of Chamber, representing error in report 188

P.—SURVEY OF STEAM-VESSELS.

PERIODICAL SURVEYS.
From Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, transmitting copy of Act on the subject, and requesting opinion of Chamber 190
From Secretary to Chamber, to Under-Secretary to Government, in reply 190
From ditto, to ditto, recommending duty of surveying to be entrusted to a thoroughly competent engineer 191

Q.—INCOME-TAX.

EXEMPTION OF BOMBAY FROM OPERATION OF ACT XXI. OF 1861.
From Chairman of Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, representing injustice of exempting Bombay .. 192
From Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to Chairman of Chamber, assigning reasons for exemption 194

INCOME-TAX ON PROFITS ON CONSIGNMENTS.
Telegram from Madras Chamber, to Bombay Chamber, and reply of latter 195

Page

R.—CURRENCY NOTES.

INCOMPLETENESS OF NOTES.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Acting Chief Secretary to Government, recommending postponement of issue 196
From Acting Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, in reply 198

S.—STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT.

ORGANISATION.

From Under-Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, calling attention of Chamber to extract of proceedings of Government of India 199
Extract 200
From Secretary to Chamber, to Under-Secretary to Government. 202

T.—PREPAYMENT OF LETTERS TO EGYPT.

DETENTION OF INSUFFICIENTLY PAID LETTERS.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Post Master General, complaining of extreme inconvenience and risk of loss from detention ... 204
From Post Master, to Secretary to Chamber, regarding delay in return of insufficiently paid letter.. 205
From Secretary to Chamber, to Post Master, drawing attention of the fact of complaint being against detention 205
From Post Master, to Secretary to Chamber, intimating reference of complaint to Post Master General 206
From Post Master, to Post Master General, forwarding complaint of Chamber 206
Circular regarding compulsory prepayment of letters to England 208
From Post Master General, to Secretary to Chamber, stating inability to comply with request of Chamber, and intimating reference to London 208
From Post Master, to Secretary to Chamber, on same subject .. 209
From Post Master General, to Secretary to Chamber, forwarding copy of reply from London Postal Authorities, and giving intimation of reference made to Director General of Post Office in India 209
Reply from London General Post Office, that the question cannot be entertained, unless on representation by Director General of Post Office in India 210

U.—DELAY IN REPAIRING SHIPS IN THE GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD.

REPAIR OF MERCHANT SHIPS.

From Secretary to Chamber, to Commander-in-Chief I. N., bringing delay to notice, and recommending relaxation of the rules in urgent cases.. 211
From Commander-in-Chief I. N., in reply 212

Page

V.—RETIREMENT OF SIR G. R. CLERK.

ADDRESS AND REPLY.

From Chairman of Chamber, to H. E. Sir G. R. Clerk, expressing sense of Chamber regarding his high personal worth and distinguished public services 213
From Sir G. R. Clerk, in acknowledgment.. 214

RETIREMENT OF MR. J. GIBBS.

ADDRESS AND REPLY.

From Chairman of Chamber, to Mr. J. Gibbs, expressing high sense of obligation of Commercial Community on account of his urbanity, tact, and judgment in administration of office as Income-Tax Commissioner 215
From Secretary to Chamber, to Chief Secretary to Government, requesting permission for Mr. Gibbs' reception of address from Chamber 216
From Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to Secretary to Chamber, intimating compliance of the Governor in Council with the wish of the Mercantile Community 216
From Mr. J. Gibbs, to Chairman of Chamber, in reply to address. 217

LIST OF PAMPHLETS AND LETTERS received by the Chamber during 1861-62 218

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ESTABLISHED 22ND SEPTEMBER 1836.

List of Members.

MESSRS. RITCHIE, STEUART, & Co.
" WILLIAM NICOL & Co.
" EWART, LATHAM, & Co.
" CARDWELL, PARSONS, & Co.
" WALLACE & Co.
" GREY & Co.
" W. AND A. GRAHAM & Co.
" PEEL, CASSELS, & Co.
" A. H. HUSCHKE & Co.
" LYON, BROTHERS, & Co.
" G. S. KING & Co.
" MARTIN, YOUNG, & Co.
" FINLAY, SCOTT, & Co.
" VOLKART, BROTHERS.
" MACINDOE, ROGERS, & Co.
" RENNIE, SCOVELL, & Co.
" CAMPBELL, MITCHELL, & Co.
" LAWRENCE & Co.
" LEGGATT & Co.
" KILLICK, NIXON, & Co.
" LECKIE & Co.
" A. C. BRICE & Co.
" S. BURSTALL & Co.

MESSRS. DADABHOY HORMUSJEE CAMA & Co.
" ROBINSON & Co.
" STEARNS, HOBART, & Co.
" JOHN TANNER & Co.
" W. C. SILLAR & Co.
" COMBER, SON, & Co.
" J. P. CORNFORTH & Co.
" NASMYTH, MACDONALD, Co.
" WATSON, BOGLE, & Co.
" ASHBURNER, BELL, & Co.
" EDWARD BATES & Co.
" FINLAY, CLARK, & Co.
" DESOUZA, PINTO, & Co.
P. & O. S. N. COMPANY.
MANCHESTER COTTON COMPANY.
COMMERCIAL BANK OF INDIA.
CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.
CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.
AGRA AND UNITED SERVICE BANK.

Retiring Committee.

HON. MICHAEL H. SCOTT, Esq., *Chairman.*
ROBERT HANNAY, Esq., *Deputy Chairman.*
W. TREVOR ROPER, Esq.
C. J. ROBINSON, Esq....
JOHN PARSONS, Esq.....
} *Members.*

Committee for 1862-63.

ROBERT HANNAY, Esq., *Chairman.*
W. R. CASSELS, Esq., *Deputy Chairman.*
ALEXANDER BROWN, Esq..
JOHN FARRAR, Esq.....
RICHARD WALLACE, Esq...
} *Members.*

Messrs. WILLIAM NICOL & Co., *Treasurers.*
H. BROOKE, Esq., *Secretary.*
MUCKOONDROW BHAWOO, *Clerk.*

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

REVISED AND ADOPTED AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH SEPTEMBER 1851.

I. That the object and duties of the Chamber shall be to encourage a friendly feeling and unanimity among commercial men on all subjects involving their common good; to promote and protect the general mercantile interests of this Presidency; to collect and classify information on all matters of general commercial interest; to obtain the removal, as far as such a society can, of all acknowledged grievances affecting merchants as a body, or mercantile interests in general; to receive and decide references on matters of usage and custom in dispute, recording such decisions for future guidance; and by this, and other means, assisting to form a code of practice for simplifying and facilitating business; to communicate with the public authorities, with similar associations in other places, and with individuals, on all subjects of general mercantile interest; and to arbitrate between parties willing to refer to, and abide by, the judgment of the Chamber.

II. That all persons engaged or interested in mercantile pursuits, desirous of joining the Chamber, and disposed to aid in carrying into effect the objects of the same, shall be admitted Members by the votes of a majority of a General Meeting, as provided for in Rule III.

III. That one-third of the Firms constituting the Chamber shall be held sufficient to form any General Meeting when the

same has been regularly called together,—one partner representing a firm; but two or more partners in one firm being present, only to count as one Member of the Chamber.

That seven clear days' notice shall, in future, be given before any resolution proposing changes in the Rules of the Chamber be brought forward.

That such notice be given in writing to the Secretary, who shall circulate it for the information of the Members of the Chamber.

IV. That the Chamber reserves to itself the right of expulsion in case of need, to be decided at a General Meeting by a majority of three-fourths of the Members present at such General Meeting duly convened.

V. The subscription of each firm, or Member of the Chamber, shall be Rupees 15 per month.*

VI. That the affairs and funds of the Association shall be managed by a Committee of Five Members, consisting of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Chamber, and three Members, to be elected annually at a General Meeting of the Chamber in the month of September. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman, as the case may be, to be *ex-officio* Chairman of the Committee, and, in their absence, the Committee to elect their own Chairman. Three to be a quorum.

VII. That no two Members of one firm shall be on the Committee at the same time.

VIII. That all questions before the Committee shall be decided by a majority, the Chairman having a second or casting vote in case of an equality of votes.

IX. That the Committee shall meet on Friday, or on such other day as may be found by them most convenient, of every week, to receive and dispose of all communications and references, and to take under their consideration, generally, all matters embraced in the objects of the Chamber; and that their proceedings be laid on the table for the inspection of all Members, subject to such regulations as they may make.

X. That General Meetings of the Chamber be held from time

* Increased to Rs. 30 by a Resolution of the Annual General Meeting in 1856.

to time, as the Committee for the time being shall propose: that a Special General Meeting shall be called by the Chairman, or by his order, five days after the receipt of a requisition from any three firms—Members of the Chamber; but that a majority of firms, represented by one or more Members from each firm, being Members of the Chamber, be required to constitute such General Meeting; and that the Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of September, on such day as the Committee for the time being shall direct; such Meeting to be convened on a five days' notice.

XI. That the Committee be authorised to provide suitable accommodation for the meeting of the Chamber: to pay all expenses of the establishment, and to control, generally, the management of the affairs of the Chamber.

XII. That all monies or funds of the Chamber, as received, be paid into the hands of the Treasurer or Treasurers for the time being, and that the same be available by cheques signed by the Chairman, or in his absence by the Acting Chairman for the time being, and by one other Member of the Committee.

XIII. That a Secretary be appointed by a majority of Members, in such way as the Committee for the time being may point out; that it shall be the duty of such Secretary to keep the records and accounts of the Chamber, to collect subscriptions, handing the same over to the Treasurer, to conduct correspondence, and to act generally under the directions of the Committee.

XIV. That all the proceedings of the Committee be subject to approval, or otherwise, of General Meetings, duly convened.

XV. That any stranger engaged or interested in mercantile pursuits, visiting the Presidency, may be introduced as an Honorary Member, by any Member of the Chamber inserting his name in a book to be kept for that purpose; but that a residence of two months shall subject him to the rule for the admission of Members.

XVI. That an Annual Report of the proceedings be made, and copies sent to similar associations in India, China, and elsewhere.

XVII. That the foregoing Rules be added to, or altered, only by a majority of Members of the Chamber.

XVIII. That the firms whose signatures are attached be considered as acknowledging the "Bombay Chamber of Commerce," as now constituted, to represent their public and united interest.

XIX. That the foregoing Rules be copied into a book, to be kept with the records of the Chamber, and be signed by all the Members, and that copies be printed and delivered to each firm.

RESOLUTION OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING, NOV. 21, 1856.

XX. That in the event of any Member of Committee resigning or declining to serve, the remaining Members of the Committee shall fill up the vacancy.

RESOLUTION OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SEPT. 29, 1858.

XXI. That for the future all General Meetings of the Chamber shall be advertised in the Newspapers.

TONNAGE SCALE AT BOMBAY.

At a General Meeting of Merchants, held in the Offices of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, on the 6th June 1856, convened by Circular, under the direction of the Committee of the Chamber, William Forsyth Hunter, Esq., Chairman of the Chamber, in the Chair—it was proposed by Henry Scott, Esq., of Messrs. Finlay, Scott, & Co., seconded by John Campbell, Esq., of Messrs. Campbell, Mitchell, & Co., and unanimously carried,—"That from and after the 1st January 1857, the following amended Scale be taken to regulate the Trade from Bombay and the Malabar Coast to the United Kingdom, in the absence of Special Agreement to the contrary:—

Articles.	To the Ton.
Aloes, in kegs	16 cwt.
Alum, in bags	20 do.
Annato, in cases	50 feet.
Apparel	do.
Arrowroot, in cases	do.
Assafœtida, in cases	do.
Barilla	20 cwt.
Bees'-wax, in cases	50 feet.
Betelnut, in bags	16 cwt.
Blackwood, in straight square logs	50 feet.
Do. otherwise	20 cwt.
Books	50 feet.
Borax, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	20 cwt.
Bullion	per cent.
Camphor, in cases	50 feet.
Canes, Rattans, in bundles	16 cwt.

Articles (continued).	To the Ton.
Cardamoms, in bundles	50 feet.
Cassia Lignea, Fistula, and Buds	do.
Chassuth	10 cwt.
China Root, in cases	50 feet.
Cigars	do.
Cinnamon, in bales	6 cwt.
Do. in cases	50 feet.
Cloves, in cases	do.
Do. in bags or frazils	10 cwt.
Coals	20 do.
Cocoa, in bags	12 do.
Coculus Indicus, in bags	16 do.
Coffee, in cases	50 feet.
Do. in bags or frazils	16 cwt.
Coir, in bales	50 feet.
Do. in bundles or loose	6 cwt.
Do. Rope, in coils	8 do.
Colocynth, in cases	50 feet.
Colombo Root, in bags	14 cwt.
Copra, in robins	12 do.
Coral, Rough (not Specimens), in bags	20 do.
Cotton, in bales	50 feet.
Cowries, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	20 cwt.
Cubebs	12 do.
Cummin Seed, in cases	50 feet.
Cutch or Terra Japonica, in bags or baskets, unscrewed	16 cwt.
Dates, wet	20 do.
Do. dry	16 do.
Dragon's Blood, in cases	50 feet.
Ebony, square and straight	do.
Do. otherwise	20 cwt.
Elephants' Teeth, in cases	50 feet.
Do. in bundles	18 cwt.
Do. loose	20 do.
Furniture	50 feet.
Galingals	12 cwt.
Galls, in bags	16 do.
Do. in cases	50 feet.
Ginger, dry, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	12 cwt.
Gram	20 do.
Ground Nuts, shelled	16 do.
Gums of all kinds, in cases	50 feet.

ARTICLES (continued).	To the Ton.
Gum Olibanum, in bags	16 cwt.
Hurtall, in cases	50 feet.
Hemp, in screwed bales	do.
Do. loose or in bundles	7 cwt.
Hides and Skins, in screwed bales	50 feet.
Do. loose and in small bundles	12 cwt.
Horns, Buffalo and Cow, loose	16 do.
Do. Deer, loose	8 do.
Horn Tips, of any kind	16 do.
Indigo, in cases	50 feet.
Jackwood	do.
Lac Dye, in shells or cases	do.
Linseed, in bags	18 cwt.
Mace, in cases	50 feet.
Mother-o'-Pearl, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	20 cwt.
Munjeet or Madder Root, in cases or bales	50 feet.
Do. in bundles or bags	12 cwt.
Musk, in cases	50 feet.
Myrabolams, in bags	16 cwt.
Nutmegs, in cases	50 feet.
Nux Vomica, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	16 cwt.
Oil of any kind, in casks	210 imp. gals.
Oil Seeds, Teel, Rape, Mustard, Khorassan, and Castor.	17 cwt.
Opium	per chest.
Paddy, in bags	16 cwt.
Pepper, in bags	do.
Pimento	14 do.
Plumbago, in bags	20 do.
Rattans, in bundles	16 do.
Do. Ground	do.
Red Wood	do.
Rhubarb, in cases	50 feet.
Rice, in bags	20 cwt.
Safflower, in cases	50 feet.
Do. in screwed bales	do.
Do. in bags	10 cwt.
Sago, in cases	50 feet.
Sal Ammoniac, in cases	do.
Do. in bags	18 cwt.
Saltpetre	20 do.
Sanlal and Sapan Wood	16 do.
Sealing-Wax, in cases	50 feet.

Articles (continued).	To the Ton.
Senna, in bags	.. 6 cwt.
Do. in bales	.. 50 feet.
Shells, Rough, in bags	.. 20 cwt.
Silk, in bales	.. 10 do.
Do. in cases	.. 50 feet.
Soap, in cases	.. do.
Sugar, in bags	.. 20 cwt.
Talc	.. do.
Tallow	.. 50 feet.
Tamarinds	.. 18 cwt.
Tea, in chests	.. 50 feet.
Timber, Teak, Square Planks and Poon ..	.. do.
Do. Round, one-fifth off.	
Tobacco, in bales	.. 50 feet.
Tortoise Shells, in chests	.. do.
Turmeric, in bags	.. 13 cwt.
Tutenague	.. 20 do.
Unrated Wood	.. 14 do.
Whangees (*vide* Canes)	.. 16 do.
Wheat	.. 20 do.
Wines and Spirits, in casks	.. 50 feet.
Do. in cases	.. do.
Wool, in screwed bales	.. do.
Zedoary	.. 20 cwt.

*** The Standard Ton at Bombay for Measurement Goods shall be taken at 50 cubic feet."

Proposed by James Fleming, Esq., of Messrs. Wm. Nicol & Co., and seconded by William Trevor Roper, Esq., of Messrs. Lawrence & Co., and carried unanimously,—"That the Freight on Oil be paid on the full gauge of the Cask, ascertained at the port of discharge."

Proposed by Thomas Stock Cowie, Esq., of Messrs. Remington & Co., and seconded by John Parsons, Esq., of Messrs. Cardwell, Parsons, & Co., and carried unanimously,—"That when Freight is payable on weight, the same is to be on the Nett Weight delivered."

(Signed) W. F. Hunter,
Chairman.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE MEASUREMENT BY CALLIPERS, UPON SHIPMENTS TO GREAT BRITAIN, OF COTTON, WOOL, HEMP, AND OTHER SCREWED AND PRESSED BALES, AT THIS PORT.

I. That Callipers shall from time to time be submitted to the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and, if found correct, shall be branded with a Stamp bearing the name of the Chamber, to indicate the same.

II. That if, from use or otherwise, any Callipers should get out of order and be objected to, the party objecting shall send the Callipers to the Chamber for examination ; and should the objection be valid, the Chamber Stamp shall be defaced by the Secretary ; if, however, the objection is found to be groundless, the Secretary shall give a note to that effect, and the party objecting shall be bound by his decision.

III. That any Callipers found incorrect, and on which the Stamp has been defaced, may be re-stamped after adjustment.

IV. That no measurements shall be held good, except such as are taken by Callipers bearing the Chamber's Stamp.

V. That Cotton, Hemp, Wool, and other screwed bales, shall be measured as follows, namely : the greatest length to be first ascertained, and then the Bale to be set on either end, as the Shipmaster may wish, and cross measurements to be taken at top over the lashings, excepting the knots, and as near the centre of the bale as possible. That an average of 100 bales be struck by ascertaining the actual measurement of any 10 bales, and proportionately, the Shipper selecting and measuring one-half, and the Shipmaster the other half ; should, however, any dispute or difficulty arise in the selection of bales, either party to have the option of measuring the whole quantity.

VI. That all produce subject to measurement be measured within the day on which it has been ordered to be screwed, provided the order has been given by the Shipmaster or Agents of the Vessel; and that from 1st June to 15th October the same be measured at the Screws; during the remainder of the year, if required, on the Bunder, weather permitting. No Cotton, Wool, or other goods, to be measured, until a Custom House Pass has been obtained for the same.

VII. That, in the event of the Shipmaster not attending to measure at such hour as may have been appointed by him, the Agent or Agents of the Ship do empower a person to attend on his behalf, whose sanction to the measurement shall be binding upon the Shipmaster.

GENERAL RATES OF COMMISSION.

Table of General Rates of Commission chargeable in Bombay; as revised by the Chamber of Commerce, and confirmed at a General Meeting, held on the 11th February 1843.

		Per cent.
1,	On procuring freight .. .. Brokerage, when actually incurred, shall be considered a legitimate charge in ship's accounts.	5
2,	On collecting freight	2½
3,	On tendering a vessel (if accepted) for the conveyance of troops; on the amount of the charter party..	5
4,	On shipping goods of every description, on which no commission for the purchase has been charged..	2½
5,	On shipping treasure, bullion, and jewellery ..	1
6,	On ship's disbursements when in funds	1
7,	On ship's disbursements when not in funds ..	2½
8,	On amount of passage money, whether the same passes through the Agent's hands or not ..	2½
9,	On effecting insurance	0½
10,	On settling insurance losses, whether partial or total, also on procuring return of premium, exclusive of commission on receipt of cash	2½
11,	On the sale or purchase of goods of all denominations (except as under)	5
12,	On purchases of all kinds with the proceeds of goods sold, and on which a commission of 5 per cent. has been previously charged	2½
13,	On the sale or purchase of ships, houses, and lands, of opium, and of diamonds, pearls, and jewellery of all descriptions	2½
14,	On the sale or purchase of treasure or bullion ..	1
15,	On the sale or purchase of cattle	5½
16,	On goods consigned which are disposed of by outcry, or sent to a shop, on net proceeds	5

		Per cent.
17,	On goods consigned, and afterwards withdrawn; invoice cost	2½
18,	On guaranteeing the responsibility of person to whom goods are sold, on the amount of sale ..	2½
19,	On attending the delivery of contract goods to the company or individuals	2½
20,	On collecting house-rent	2½
21,	On sale or purchase of private bills of exchange ..	1
22,	On effecting remittances by bills of exchange ..	1
23,	On taking up at interest bills from the Company, exclusive of one per cent. on remitting	1
24,	On exchanging Company's securities of all descriptions, or investing money therein, and on transferring Government paper from one constituent to another	0½
25,	On surrendering or depositing in the Treasury Company's security of all descriptions	0½
26,	On procuring money on respondentia or on loan ..	2
27,	On recovering of bonds, or of bills for absentees, overdue at the time of their being placed in the possession of the Agent	2
28,	On debts when a process at law by arbitration is necessary	2½
29,	On debts when recovered by such means	5
30,	On managing the affairs of the estate for an executor or administrator	5
31,	On recovering funds from a bankrupt estate ..	2½
32,	On guaranteeing bills, bonds, or debts in general, by endorsement or otherwise	2½
33,	On bills of exchange returned noted or protested..	1
34,	On granting and cashing letters of credit.. ..	2½
35,	On becoming security to Government or public bodies in any case	2½
36,	On depositing Government paper as security for constituents	1
37,	On receipt or payment, at the option of the Agent, of all monies not arising from proceeds of goods on which commission has been previously charged.	1
38,	In all cases where the debtor side of the account exceeds the creditor side, including the balance of interest, commission to be charged at the rate of..	1

SHIP FREIGHT INWARDS.

WITH reference to the payment of Inward Freight at Bombay when stated in Sterling, we, the undersigned Merchants, do hereby agree, that for the future, all such Freight falling due under Bills of Lading dated on or after the 1st November next, shall (in the absence of Special Agreement, *or when stated to be payable at the current rate of Exchange*) be paid and received by us at the rate of Two Shillings per Rupee.

It is understood that the Agreement dated February 1849 shall continue to regulate the payment of all Freights falling due under Bills of Lading dated previous to 31st October next.

(Signed) FORBES & Co.
" REMINGTON & Co.
" LECKIE & Co.
" LEGGATT, MCKENZIE, & Co.
" PEEL, CASSELS, & Co.
" FINLAY, SCOTT, & Co.
" LAWRENCE & Co.
" A. H. HUSCHKE & Co.
" DIROM, HUNTER, & Co.
" STEVENS BROTHERS.
" G. PERRY & Co.
" W. LANGLOIS, A. LEROYS, & Co.
" ROBERT STRONG & Co.
" EDWARD BATES & Co.
" GREY & Co.
" VINAY, FILS, & Co.
" HEYCOCK & Co.
" WILLIAM MCHAFFIE & Co.
" HASTINGS, HICKS, SIM, & Co.

(Signed) VOLKART, BROTHERS.
" RENNIE, SCOVELL, & Co.
" LYON, BROTHERS, & Co.
" WM. NICOL & Co.
" MARTIN, YOUNG, & Co.
" RITCHIE, STEUART, & Co.
" MACINDOE, ROGERS, & Co.
" CARDWELL, PARSONS, & Co.
" W. & A. GRAHAM & Co.
" ROBERT FRITH & Co.
" WALLACE & Co.
" MCCULLOCH & Co.
" EWART, LATHAM, & Co.
" CAMPBELL, MITCHELL, & Co.
" W. C. SILLAR & Co.
" KILLICK, NIXON, & Co.
" GEORGE POLLEXFEN & Co.
" T. R. RICHMOND.

Bombay, August, 1858.

GENERAL MEETINGS IN 1861-62.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Thursday, the 10th October 1861, to consider the position taken up by Government towards the Manchester Cotton Company, with reference to the advantages over private enterprise conferred on that Company.

Present,—

James N. Fleming, Esq., *Chairman*, in the Chair.

George Lord, Esq.,
Thomas Comber, Esq.,
C. J. Robinson, Esq.,
William Nixon, Esq.,
J. R. P. Leggatt, Esq.,
Michael H. Scott, Esq.,
John Campbell, Esq.,
Alex. Wallace, Esq.,
W. Sim, Esq.,
S. Burstall, Esq.,
H. D. Cartwright, Esq.,
James Bevis, Esq.,
J. R. Drynan, Esq.,
W. C. Sillar, Esq.,
E. Parker, Esq.,
R. Hannay, Esq.,
R. Latham, Esq.,
H. Brooke, Esq.,
G. W. Healey, Esq., and
C. Macdonald, Esq.

The circular calling the Meeting having been read, the following Resolutions were brought forward :—

Proposed by Michael H. Scott, Esq., seconded by John Campbell, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That the Chamber has learned by the report of the 'Manchester Cotton Company, limited,' that Sir Charles Wood, Secretary of State for India, has agreed, on behalf of Government, to reserve to the Company the requisite amount of land at the new port of Sudasewghur, for the erection of a Cotton Gin Factory, Press-houses, Offices, and Stores, and to place at the disposal of the Company, free of expense, the services of Dr. Forbes. That the Chamber, whilst viewing with pleasure the efforts of the Manchester Company to promote and extend the Cotton trade of this country, cannot but deprecate the granting to it by the Home

Government of special privileges which are not accorded to private enterprise."

Proposed by George Lord, Esq., seconded by James Bevis, Esq., and carried unanimously—"That this Chamber, having had brought to its notice that the Secretary of State for India has ordered the Local Government not to dispose of land at Sudasewghur, for which previous application had been made, until the Agents of the Cotton Company shall first have had an opportunity of selecting sites, enters its strong protest against so unwarrantable and partial an exercise of authority by the Secretary of State for India."

Proposed by Henry Durance Cartwright, Esq., seconded by A. F. Wallace, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That in the opinion of this Chamber, the practice which obtains in English Colonies, and which has already been partly carried out in this country, should always be acted upon in India; and that Government lands which may be for sale should be submitted to public competition, in parcels, at different periods of time, after due notice by advertisement: thus the highest price would be obtained, and complaints of undue preference be avoided."

Proposed by Robert Hannay, Esq., seconded by Richard Latham, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That a copy of the Resolutions passed at this Meeting be transmitted to Government, with a request that the same be forwarded to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in Council."

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the Meeting separated.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Wednesday, the 15th January 1862, at noon, for the purpose of representing to Government the defenceless state of Bombay, and praying them immediately to adopt measures for securing the safety of the port.

Present,—

James N. Fleming, Esq., *Chairman*, in the Chair.

Thomas Comber, Esq.,
R. Hannay, Esq.,
W. Nixon, Esq.,
C. Macdonald, Esq.,
G. Whitley, Esq.,
J. R. P. Leggatt, Esq.,
R. Angus, Esq.,
W. Sim, Esq.,
C. J. Robinson, Esq.,
John Tanner, Esq.,
Alex. Wallace, Esq.,
J. Achenbach, Esq.,
J. P. Cornforth, Esq.,
W. C. Sillar, Esq.,
A. Morrison, Esq.,
James Bevis, Esq.

A. Fulcher, Esq.,
W. Somerville, Esq.,
J. Dawes, Esq.,
J. Cassels, Esq.,
W. R. Cassels, Esq.,
W. T. Roper, Esq.,
A. B. Bogle, Esq.,
S. Burstall, Esq.,
E. P. Repton, Esq.,
R. Latham, Esq.,
H. D. Cartwright, Esq.,
W. F. Stearns, Esq.,
G. W. Healey, Esq.,
John Campbell, Esq., and
M. H. Scott, Esq.

The circular calling the Meeting having been read, the following resolutions were brought forward :—

Proposed by W. R. Cassels, Esq., seconded by H. D. Cartwright, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That this Meeting, viewing with anxiety and alarm the present defenceless state of Bombay, would respectfully but strongly urge upon Government the absolute necessity of protecting a port in which are centred the greatest interests of Western India, and which is so essential to the commercial prosperity of Great Britain, by vigorously prosecuting the permanent fortifications of the harbour, and by according, for its present protection, such a naval force as may be deemed sufficient for that purpose."

Proposed by Robert Hannay, Esq., seconded by W. Sim, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That a Committee, composed of W. R. Cassels, Esq., and John Campbell, Esq., be appointed to draw up a memorial to Government, embodying the views of the Chamber."

Proposed by John Cassels, Esq., seconded by James N. Fleming, Esq.,—"That the Manchester Cotton Company be admitted Members of the Chamber."—Duly elected.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the Meeting separated.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Wednesday, the 14th May 1862, at 1 P. M., for the purpose of electing a Chairman in the place of James N. Fleming, Esq., who has left Bombay for Europe.

Present,—

John Parsons, Esq., in the Chair.

A. J. Hunter, Esq.,
Charles Macdonald, Esq.,
E. P. Repton, Esq.,
W. Trevor Roper, Esq.,
A. B. Bogle, Esq.,
A. Morrison, Esq.,
S. Burstall, Esq.,
W. Nixon, Esq.,
R. Wallace, Esq.,
John Mitchell, Esq.,
R. McIlwraith, Esq., and
R. Latham, Esq.

The circular calling the Meeting having been read, the following resolutions were brought forward and carried unanimously :—

Proposed by John Parsons, Esq., seconded by E. P. Repton, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That the Honourable Michael H. Scott, Esq., be elected Chairman, and Robert Hannay, Esq., Deputy Chairman, for the unexpired term of the present Session."

(The subject of the inefficiency of the Pilot Service was discussed, and the Committee were requested to take into consideration what measures might be adopted for its improvement, and to report the result at a future Meeting.)

It was then proposed by the Honorable M. H. Scott, Esq., seconded by R. McIlwraith, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That the Committee be instructed again to address Government on the subject of Mr. Forjett's retirement, and respectfully to suggest that, if it be possible, the services of so efficient a police officer should be retained."

Messrs. Ashburner, Bell, & Co., were proposed as Members by R. Latham, Esq., seconded by R. McIlwraith, Esq., and, after a ballot, were declared duly elected.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the Meeting separated.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held at their Office, at noon, on Tuesday, the 30th September 1862.

Present,—

Robert Hannay, Esq., *Deputy Chairman*, in the Chair.

Robert McIlwraith, Esq.,	John Mitchell, Esq.,
John Parsons, Esq.,	C. Macdonald, Esq.,
Julius Achenbach, Esq.,	W. R. Cassels, Esq.,
R. P. Nixon, Esq.,	H. Maxwell, Esq.,
— Hewson, Esq.,	H. Brooke, Esq.,
C. Killick, Esq.,	Archibald Scott, Esq.,
R. F. Pryce, Esq.,	J. R. Drynan, Esq., and
W. Trevor Roper, Esq.,	G. W. Healey, Esq.

The notice convening the Meeting, and the Annual Report of the Committee, having been read, the following Resolutions were brought forward :—

Proposed by Walter R. Cassels, Esq., seconded by C. Macdonald, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That the Report now read be approved of, and printed for general information, together with the documents therein referred to."

Proposed by R. McIlwraith, Esq., seconded by G. W. Healey, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That the Members of the Committee retiring are entitled to, and do receive, the thanks of the Chamber for their attention to its interests during the year of office now expired."

Proposed by John Parsons, Esq., seconded by Julius Achenbach, Esq., and carried unanimously,—"That the Committee for the ensuing year shall be as follows :—

Robert Hannay, Esq., *Chairman.*
W. R. Cassels, Esq., *Deputy Chairman.*

Alexander Brown, Esq.....
John Farrar, Esq. ..... } *Members.*"
Richard Wallace, Esq.....

Messrs. Edward Bates & Co. were proposed as Members by John Parsons, Esq., seconded by W. Trevor Roper, Esq., and, after a ballot, were declared duly elected.

Messrs. DeSouza, Pinto, & Co., were proposed as Members by W. Trevor Roper, Esq., seconded by W. Nixon, Esq., and, after a ballot, were declared duly elected.

Messrs. Finlay, Clark, & Co., were proposed as Members by H. Maxwell, Esq., seconded by Robert Hannay, Esq., and, after a ballot, were declared duly elected.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the Meeting separated.

ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The past year has been chiefly remarkable for the first step made towards self-government by the different Presidencies, in the opening of the local Legislative Councils.

The step, it must be admitted, is limited and cautious in the extreme; but being in the right direction, all friends of progress should feel grateful that it has been made.

During the last Session, several measures of considerable importance to the general public, and more especially to the Mercantile community, have been brought forward, and freely discussed, both in Council and out of Council. It is therefore to be hoped that the public of Bombay will henceforth take a greater interest in the discussion of subjects bearing on the welfare of this great country than they have hitherto done.

Up to this time the non-official public in this Presidency has been singularly apathetic upon all public questions. This peculiarity is not due, your Commit-

tee feels assured, to any deficiency in intelligence, but simply to the feeling that their opinions were not likely to be much regarded by those in authority, and that therefore it was of little use to give expression to them. A new era has now commenced, and your Committee hope year by year to see a stronger and more intelligent feeling of interest in public questions displayed by the public at large, and especially by the Members of the Chamber; so that Bombay may ere long be enabled to take and maintain that important place in the Councils of this country to which its position clearly entitles it. Bombay has been in no way behind in material progress, and let us hope that its political influence will advance with equally rapid strides.

The subjects brought before the Chamber have not been of very stirring interest, but the correspondence of the year will still, the Committee trusts, repay perusal.

COTTON CULTIVATION.

The extraordinary change in the circumstances of the American Cotton-producing States during the last fifteen months invests this subject with unusual interest; and all eyes are directed towards India, in the expectation that she will be enabled to take advantage of the opportunity offered to her to break the monopoly hitherto secured by America.

Your Committee regret extremely that there appears little immediate prospect of any great effort being made by India to justify the expectations lavished upon her.

That India has not responded to the world's invitation to rush into the production of Cotton, to the displacement of other articles of primary necessity, is to be found partly in the circumstance that Indian Cotton has hitherto been regarded in Manchester as a mere stop-gap, to be availed of in times of scarcity, and to be thrown aside in times of a plentiful supply of the superior article. Your Committee do not allude to this circumstance as a matter of complaint against Manchester, but as a simple statement of fact. When Manchester can get cheap American Cotton, Surats are not wanted: thus the production of an enormous supply of Native Cotton is, as a rule, dangerous in the extreme to those interested; and, generally speaking, no class of persons can be found sufficiently reckless to advance the capital necessary to its development. But it may be said, that India can grow Cotton from American seed of respectable quality, as instanced in the case of Dharwar; and here would apparently be a field for the exercise of an unlimited amount of enterprise. But there are great difficulties in the way of an extension of the cultivation of American Cotton to other districts.

Occasionally an individual, more confident, or more ambitious than the average of the community, makes the attempt—usually, however, with but little success, as the costly nature of European management, the mistakes inevitable in a new branch of industry, coupled with the too often unpropitiousness of the seasons, leave him at the end of several years pretty much as he started as regards the demonstration of his theory,

and minus a considerable amount of his capital. Several of these experiments are now being tried, but, your Committee believe, with but slender prospect of pecuniary reward.

The late period of the season when the Government prizes were offered last year precluded any extensive action being taken for 1862; but your Committee hope that there will be more numerous competitors for those of 1863. (See Appendix A.)

The following is the progressive advance in the cultivation of American Cotton in Dharwar :—

YEARS.	ACRES UNDER		TOTAL.
	AMERICAN COTTON.	NATIVE COTTON.	
In 1851 ..	31,000	223,000	254,000
1852 ..	42,000	222,000	264,000
1853 ..	28,000	251,000	279,000
1854 ..	41,000	252,000	293,000
1855 ..	63,000	210,000	273,000
1856 ..	50,000	191,000	241,000
1857 ..	82,000	197,000	279,000
1858 ..	101,000	252,000	353,000
1859 ..	105,000	215,000	320,000
1860 ..	156,000	231,000	387,000
1861 ..	154,000	234,000	388,000
1862 ..	201,000	177,000	378,000

RAILWAYS.

The Railway system, so important in an economic and military point of view, is slowly but surely approaching completion. Hitherto the breaks at the Ghauts have been a serious impediment to their success, both commercially and financially; and it is gra-

tifying to think that within six months from this time one at least of these gigantic works will be completed. Your Committee cannot do better than read the reports of the G. I. P. and Baroda Railways, obligingly furnished at their request, as to the general progress of the works:—

No. 3392 of 1862.

To the Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,—In compliance with the request contained in your letter No. 93, of the 13th ultimo, I am desired to forward, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying Memorandum of the progress of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway during the year ending the 30th June last.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) W. R. Hoare,
Secretary.

G. I. P. Railway Co.'s Offices, Bombay, 16th Sept. 1862.

Memorandum of Progress of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway *during the Year ending 30th of June* 1862, *for the information of the* Chamber of Commerce.

The Section of the Line from Nassick to Chaleesgaum, being a distance of 87 miles, was opened for public traffic on the 1st October 1861, and the length of opened line was thus increased from 350¾ to 437¾ miles, namely—

Concan Division.

Bombay to Callian, with Mahim Branch.....34¾ miles.
South-East Line (Callian to Campoolee).....37½ „
North-East Line (Callian to Kussarah).....41¾ „

Miles 114

Deccan Division.

South-East Line (Khandalla to Sholapore) ....205¼ miles.
North-East Line (Egutpoora to Chaleesgaum)..118½ „

Miles 323¾

Total Miles 437¾

The Railway under construction was 675½ miles, divided into the following Contracts:—

South-Eastern Line.

No. 7, Bhore Ghaut Incline ..... 13¼ miles.

North-Eastern Line.

No. 11, Thull Ghaut Incline..... 9¾ miles.
No. 12, (part of) Chaleesgaum to Bhosawul ..... 72 „
No. 13, Bhosawul to Oomrawuttee ..134¼ „
No. 14, Oomrawuttee to Nagpore ....108¾ „
No. 15, Bhosawul to Hurdah .....138¾ „
No. 16, Hurdah to Sohagpore..... 82 „
No. 17, Sohagpore to Jubbulpore ....116¾ „

In the ensuing cold season, surveys of the country southward of Sholapore will be undertaken, with a view to laying out a more favourable line of junction with the Madras Railway, either through the more fertile districts to the eastward of those traversed by the line to Moodgul, or by a direct line from Sholapore to Hyderabad; thus placing that important city on the through line of communication.

Upon the Bhore Ghaut Incline, nearly all the important works have been finished, and there is every reason to expect that the whole of the earthwork will be completed, and the permanent way laid through by February, and that by the end of March next the Incline will be opened for public traffic.

North-Eastern Extension.

The tunnel arches across the Goolburn ravine are completed, and the rails are laid over the embankment. It is expected that through communication to Kussarah, at the foot of the Thul Ghaut, will be restored by the end of the month. About the same time, a further section from Chaleesgaum to Julgaum, of 58 miles, will be opened for public traffic, and a further extension to Bhosawul early next year.

The works on the Nagpore line are progressing steadily, and it is hoped that a section from Bhosawul to Sheagaum, in West Berar, a distance of about 60 miles, may be opened in the ensuing spring.

The Contracts between Bhosawul and Jubbulpore have been transferred into the hands of new Contractors in the course of last year, and the works on this important section of the Railway are now being carried out with energy and activity.

The Electric Telegraph has been completed to Bhosawul, and the extension of the line from Bhosawul to Oomrawuttee and Nagpore is in active progress.

(Signed) R. W. GRAHAM.

(True copy)

W. R. HOARE,
Secretary.

No. 435 OF 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I am in receipt of your favour of 13th instant, and have much pleasure in supplying the information you require.

2. The portion of our line now open for traffic extends from Bulsar, 40 miles south of Surat, to Memoodabad, within 18 miles of our present northern terminal point,

Ahmedabad, a total distance of 167½ miles. I confidently expect that the remaning short length will be opened early in October, thus completing the line from Surat to Ahmedabad.

3. Southwards we shall probably be able to extend as far as the port of Dhanoo, within about 75 miles of Bombay, early in March, and I confidently anticipate the completion of our entire line to Bombay by the end of the ensuing year 1863.

4. The receipts of the traffic along our open line have been steadily and rapidly improving, and from the eagerness with which our opening to Ahmedabad is looked for by Natives of all castes and classes, the happiest results may be expected.

5. I have the pleasure to enclose a statement of our traffic receipts for the half-year ended 30th June.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) HENRY F. WHYTE,
Acting Agent.

B. B. and C. I. Railway Offices, Surat, 6th Sept. 1862.

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY.

STATEMENT OF TRAFFIC.

Statement of Traffic for the Half-Year No. 5, ended the 30th

	Coaching.	Merchandize.	Total.	Number of Train Miles.	Gross Earnings per Train Mile.	Trains.		Average Number of Vehicles.	
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.			Coaching.	Merchandize.
Passengers	1,69,599 5 7	....							
Parcels and Luggage	17,805 15 7	....	1,93,192 2 6	42,261½	4 9 2	Passengers	....	....	5
Carriages, Horses, and Dogs	4,659 5 4	....				Mixed	363	452	252
Special	1,127 8 0	....				Goods	97	....	510
Goods	....	75,902 10 8				Excursion and Special	33	39	5
Live Stock	....	821 14 1	81,805 11 2	13,163¾	6 3 5				
Demurrage	....	5,081 2 5							
Total	1,93,192 2 6	81,805 11 2	2,74,997 13 8	55,425	4 15 5				

Classification of

		Single and double, 1st Class.		Single and double, 2nd Class.	
		No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
			Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Booked at Stations	Up	456	1,761 9 3	2,459	2,767 2
	Down	516	1,761 13 6	2,802	2,712 4
Soldiers		..	....	245	558 5
Excess Fares		65	145 1 0	210	233 5
	Total	1,037	3,668 7 9	5,716	6,271 0

Classification of

		Special Class, Timber.		1st Class.		2nd Class.		3rd Class.		4th Cl
		Weight.	Amount.	Weight.	Amount.	Weight.	Amount.	Weight.	Amount.	Weight.
		Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.
Ordinary Traffic	Up	1,924 20	302 7 5	45,901 2½	657 3 9	96,392 37	12,564 10 2	9,048 20	1,457 8 7	53,644 34½
	Down	2,931 ..	663 0 3	21,607 2½	1,025 5 0	68,383 ..	7,732 2 4	6,591 9	1,337 12 8	22,678 6½
Railway Materials	Up	13,070 33	1,424 4 3	120,704 38½	5,670 2 9	709 38½	65 5 1	202 16	22 2 6	3,071 37
	Down	13,713 39	3,635 0 7	208,208 33½	14,579 15 2	21,032 37½	1,695 4 9	124 27	11 3 4	14,893 35½
	Total	31,640 12	6,024 12 6	361,421 35½	21,932 10 8	186,518 32½	22,057 6 4	15,966 32	2,828 11 1	94,288 2

Audit Office, Surat, 5th August 1862.

(Signed) R. C. STOVIN,
Revenue Accountant.

(True co
(Signed) HENRY

June 1862.—*Open* 18 *Stations,* 321¼ *Miles.*

Miles run.				Receipts for the Half-year, 25 weeks and 6 days.	Receipts for previous days.	Total for weeks and days.	Weekly Average.	Average per Railway Mile.
Total.	Proportion. Coaching.	Proportion. Merchandise.		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
			Coaching	1,93,192 2 6	....	....	7,471 8 4	1,460 12 11
....	.. ..	....	Merchandise	81,805 11 2	....	....	3,163 12 1	618 9 2
47,955½	41,605½	6,350	Total	2,74,997 13 8	....	....	10,635 4 5	2,079 6 1
6,745½	....	6,745½	Corresponding period of 1861, open 90½ Miles	1,69,851 12 11	....	....	....	1,882 0 3
724	656	68	Increase	1,05,146 0 9	....	....	....	197 5 10
55,425	42,261½	13,163½	Decrease	....	....	....	....	....
	55,425							

ssenger Traffic.

Single, 3rd Class.		Total.		Percentage of Receipts from Passenger Traffic.			Average Mileage of Passengers.		
No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.						
0,839	75,264 15 4	202,754	79,738 10 9						
2,159	81,622 9 7	215,477	86,096 11 3	2.16	3.70	94.14	41.87	36.99	36.79
1,713	1,412 1 1	1,958	1,970 6 7						
4,337	1,360 3 0	4,612	1,738 9 0						
8,048	1,59,659 13 0	424,801	1,69,539 5 7						

ods. Traffic.

Class	5th Class.			Total.			Percentage of Receipts from Goods Traffic.						Average Mileage of Goods.					
	Amount.	Weight.	Amount.	Weight.		Amount.	Special Class.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	4th Class.	5th Class.	Special Class.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	4th Class.	5th Class.
	Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Mds.	s.	Rs. a. p.												
9,05	9 0	3,496 6	1,398 2	3	180,407	8¼	25,427 9 2											
5,3	6 8	11,410 27	3,612 3	5	183,601	4¼	19,756 14 4	7.94	28.89	29.06	3.73	23.41	6.97	41.47	39.65	61.81	57.87	49.25	59.12
	5 8	10 10	4 3	2	137,770	12½	7,661 7 5											
2,3	14 7	669 11	275 5	4	253,648	22¾	23,136 11 9											
17,7	3 11	15,586 14	5,289 14	2	705,422	7¾	75,902 10 8											

rue copy)

ENRY F. WHYTE,
Acting Agent.

(Signed) HENRY F. WHYTE,
Acting Agent.

While on this subject, it may be well to mention that your Committee have expressed their hearty approval of the Bills to promote the construction of lines of communication as feeders to railways, high-roads, navigable rivers, and canals, which have lately been introduced in the Legislative Councils of Bengal and Bombay. (See Appendix B.)

TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

The apparently absolute helplessness of the heads of this department to organise any system by which the slightest approach to integrity on the part of the employés can be arrived at, has become a source of both ridicule and indignation. So useless does any representation on the part of the public appear to be, that your Committee have not wasted time in any elaborate communications with the authorities. They feel that until really competent men are in charge of the department, no mitigation of the existing inefficiency can be looked for. The Chamber can only urge upon the public at large to lose no opportunity of impressing upon Government the necessity of selecting men whose antecedents in England or elsewhere are some guarantee for their fitness for the direction of this most important department. Its management is at present simply disgraceful: interruptions, especially on the Galle line, almost inevitably occur when the news is of more than ordinary importance, and then, it is believed, only after several messages, the contents of which speedily find their way to the Native bazar, have been received.

These singular facts the Committee have on several occasions pressed on the notice of Government. (See Appendix C.)

PILOTAGE AND HARBOUR MANAGEMENT.

The long standing grievances connected with the system in force at this port have occupied from time to time so much of the attention of the Chamber that it is unnecessary to recapitulate the various protests, complaints, and suggestions made by it during the last seven years. Suffice it to say, that no improvement whatever is visible in the system, and your Committee therefore thought it incumbent upon them again to press the matter on the attention of Government; and it is probable that an impartial and efficient Commission to inquire into and report upon the whole question of Harbour arrangements will shortly be constituted. Papers on the subject have been received from Captain Barker, Mr. Oliver, and Mr. Kennelly, which will receive the attention of the Commission, and it is to be hoped that definite action will at length be taken in a matter so important to the interests of the mercantile community. (See Appendix D.)

OVERLAND MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

A reference was made to this Chamber for its opinion as to the desirability of discontinuing the direct steamers to Calcutta, and conveying the Bengal mails through Bombay, partly by rail and partly by dâk. Although Bombay would undoubtedly benefit by such an arrangement, your Committee considered that it would be invidious to express a decided opinion

upon a subject in which Calcutta is chiefly interested, and they therefore refrained from influencing the Post Office Authorities in their decision. It is self-evident that Bombay must eventually become the centre of the Indian Mail Service; but whether the Railway system is sufficiently developed to render this expedient at the present moment, your Committee feel themselves hardly competent to judge. (See Appendix E.)

Some correspondence passed relative to the inconvenience caused by the rule necessitating the prepayment of all foreign letters, and it is to be hoped that the Post Office Authorities at home will find means to remove this great source of annoyance, particularly in the case of letters for Egypt, which frequently contain important telegrams, and which have in some instances been detained for insufficiency of postage. (See Appendix T.)

DEFENCELESS STATE OF BOMBAY.

The inadequacy of the defences to ensure the safety of the Town and Harbour of Bombay against the appliances of modern warfare has long been well known to all classes who have given any consideration to the subject, and the attention of successive Governments has been directed to this culpable neglect. At the time of the excitement consequent on the affair of the *Trent*, an intense feeling of dissatisfaction prevailed; and although the matter was somewhat beyond the limited sphere of a Chamber of Commerce, your Committee felt it their duty to call a Special General Meeting to protest against the almost criminal apathy that has so long characterised the action both of the Home and

the Supreme Indian Governments. A memorial to Sir Charles Wood was adopted and sent home, but your Committee regret that they as yet can record but little evidence of any energetic action in so important a matter. (See Appendix F.)

IMPORT DUTIES.

In July 1861 the Chamber petitioned Government for a reduction of Import Duties, and on the 16th of April Mr. Laing, in his Budget, returned to the scale in force prior to March 1859, so far as Piece Goods and Twist were concerned, viz. 5 per cent. on the former and 3½ per cent. on the latter. Although the measure could not be other than approved of, it will be remembered, the majority of the Chamber were then of opinion, that a more suitable time might have been selected for bringing the reduced Tariff into operation.

Seeing that the present mode of fixing Duty on Wines led to much inconvenience, owing to the use in the Tariff of the vague term "Light Wines," the Committee, with a view to facilitating business at the Custom House, suggested to Government the propriety of admitting all wines of a less value than Rs. 12, (without reference to name or class,) at the lower rate of one rupee per gallon.

The Committee have upon various occasions during the past year communicated with the Customs Authorities as to the impropriety of charging 10 per cent. Duty on T. R. Scarfs. Finding that 5 per cent. only is now charged in Calcutta, they have again brought the subject to the notice of the Local Authorities, and

have reason to believe that in future only 5 per cent. will be levied.

The amended Customs Bill having been considered by the Committee, they have suggested sundry modifications, which appeared to them to be desirable. (See Appendix G.)

STAMP DUTIES.

Government having communicated with the Chamber relative to the Stamp Act, the Committee replied that the Act as amended appeared to them to be a most cumbrous document, many of the paragraphs being almost, if not altogether, unintelligible. They suggested the desirability of having an Act of a much simpler nature, one that the masses of the people could readily interpret and understand. They proposed the more general adoption of a one anna stamp for documents used in mercantile transactions, under Schedule A. They also considered that Stamps on Bonds, &c. should, if possible, in no case exceed one-eighth per cent., and suggested that the passing of the new Act should be delayed, until the Members generally had time to give the fullest consideration to so important a measure. (See Appendix H.)

FAIRS.

The Report of the Samlajee Fair held in November last is worthy of careful study. At the last Fair the amount of business transacted was nearly double that of former years. It is satisfactory to observe a marked increase in demand for European manufactures, sales this season being estimated at one lakh, against Rs. 40,000, the highest amount sold previously.

The Report of Mhyjee Fair, held between 15th January and 15th March, is exceedingly interesting. The amount of business transacted this season is estimated at Rs. 45,85,000, being fourteen lakhs more than in 1861, and eleven and a half lakhs over the average of the last twenty years. The statistics of cloth are curious and instructive. It appears that cloths of Europe in request there still bear but a small proportion to those of Native manufacture.

The total value of all kinds sold was Rs. 16,29,980; of which, made in Europe, Rs. 3,54,925; in Nagpore, Rs. 8,51,838; in Yeola, Rs. 1,07,050; in Surat, &c., Rs. 3,16,167.

The Committee suggest that their successors should, if possible, procure samples of the chief staple manufactures of Nagpore, for the information of the Members generally. (See Appendix I.)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

The proposal emanating from Calcutta to close all public offices for a period of ten days at the end of May every year having been submitted to the Chamber for its opinion, your Committee, considering that at no period of the year, and especially the period proposed, could such a course be adopted here without great injury to private interests, expressed their opinion in accordance with this view of the subject. (See Appendix J.)

DISTRESS IN THE COTTON MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.

Upon the distress in the Manufacturing Districts

becoming known in Bombay, your Committee, feeling that the same cause which had led to this widespread calamity had enabled many of the Members of the Chamber to realise unexpected profits, considered that it would be a fitting opportunity for Bombay to take the lead in opening a subscription for its alleviation, and accordingly, a considerable sum was collected in a few days, and about £6,000 remitted to the Lord Mayor of London.

Subsequently, as the calamity increased in extent, and intensity, it was deemed of so national a character that an appeal might be properly made to the benevolence of the community at large; and with this view His Excellency the Governor was invited to preside over a Public Meeting to promote the success of the Fund. The Meeting was attended by many of the most influential members of the Bombay community, both European and Native, and it is gratifying to record that a further sum of a lakh and a half of rupees has been subscribed up to the present time, £10,000 of which have been remitted by the last mail. (See Appendix K.)

EUROPEAN PAUPERISM.

The increasing pauperism amongst Europeans in this Presidency having been carefully minuted on by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Government considered it desirable that a Committee should assemble for the purpose of considering and reporting on the whole subject. The present Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Chamber are members of that Committee. (See Appendix L.)

Mr. FORJETT.

It having become known that our present able Deputy Commissioner of Police had been obliged to resign his post in consequence of his failing health, your Committee deemed it their duty to appeal to Government, with a view, if possible, to having his duties so lessened, as to permit of his valuable services being still retained. They took occasion to press upon Government the anomaly, false in principle as they conceive, and certainly unsatisfactory in practice, of having a Commissioner of Police paid for, but especially precluded from, performing the duties of his office, and a Deputy Commissioner, paid as such, but performing all the duties of his nominally superior office. Government received their representations with the utmost courtesy, and promised to give them their most favourable consideration.

The Committee trust, therefore, that some such arrangement may be made as will prevent the loss of so valuable a public servant. (See Appendix M.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

Several other subjects, particularly the Adulteration of Cotton and Seeds, have occupied the attention of the Chamber; but as no decided course has yet been resolved upon, their further consideration is left by the Committee to their successors.

FUNDS OF THE CHAMBER.

The income has been about equal to the expenditure,

—the balance in the hands of the Treasurers being Rs. 3,658, against Rs. 3,857 same time last year.

CONCLUSION.

Early in the present year His Excellency Sir George Russell Clerk was compelled by illness to resign his post as Governor of this Presidency, and your Committee deemed it their duty to express, ere his departure, the high admiration entertained by the Chamber for his lengthened and eminent public services, and their appreciation of the marked consideration with which all the representations of the Chamber had been received by his Government.

A copy of the address presented to him, and of his reply, will be found in Appendix V.

He has been succeeded by the experienced statesman who was so well known amongst us as the Commissioner who did so much for Scinde, and who latterly, in the Council of the Governor-General of India, had taken a leading part in passing the many useful and important measures which distinguished the latter part of Lord Canning's administration.

The Chamber hailed Sir Bartle Frere's appointment with the greatest satisfaction. They anticipate from his rule very great benefit to the Presidency; and the measures already brought forward under his auspices encourage them in the belief that they will not be disappointed.

The Committee cannot conclude without referring to the inestimable loss sustained by India and the Empire at large by the death of the late Viceroy. All India now appreciates his noble personal character,

his great abilities as a statesman, and his untiring zeal for the best interests of the country; and all hoped that for many a long year, in the Imperial Councils of the Nation, his great experience and matured judgment might have guided and controlled legislation on Indian subjects.

His latest measures will form his enduring monument. He has been followed to his grave by the regrets of the whole population of India, European and Native.

Another Statesman has passed away from India within the last year, but his councils and experience are still, the Committee trust, to be of great benefit to the country. The Statesman by whose efforts the finances of the country were rescued from an almost hopeless state of confusion and chronic deficit, and under whose care they were fostered to a surplus; by whom the heavy duty pressing on English Cotton Goods was removed, and by whom, above all, has been made such a manly stand for the independence of the Supreme Government of this country, cannot be passed over in this Report. Mr. Laing will not be forgotten in India, and the Committee trust that he may yet be spared to do her good service.

Funds of the Chamber, 1861-62.

Disbursements.				Receipts.			
Rent .. ..Rs.	1,800	0	0	Balance from last year .. .. ..Rs.	1,778	2	5
Printing	746	0	0	Since paid in	1,165	8	0
Advertisements	188	8	0	Subscriptions	9,000	0	0
Newspapers	80	0	0	Sale of Manifests and Trade Returns ..	3,207	12	0
Books purchased	72	0	0	Sale of Reports, Tonnage Scales, &c. ..	33	1	7
Postage Stamps	92	14	0	Realised from Calcutta Chamber for charges incurred on Colonel Baird Smith's Memorials	97	0	0
Stationery	113	9	0	Realised by the Sale of Egyptian and American Cotton for Mr. Atkinson ..	25	10	6
Office Salaries and Petty Charges ..	3,618	7	6	Interest received from Treasurers ..	74	9	7
Manifests and Trade Returns:							
Salaries, &c... ..Rs. 2,008 5 3							
Printing 2,805 12 0							
	4,814	1	3				
Remuneration to Mr. W. C. Sillar ..	1,000	0	0				
Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, & Co., charges on Woollen Cloth	104	7	4				
Mr. Atkinson, for Egyptian and American Cotton	25	10	0				
Commission paid Treasurers	135	4	7				
Balance	2,590	13	11	Balance in hands of Treasurers 1st September 1862 .. ..Rs.	2,590	13	11
				Since paid in	1,067	13	0
Rupees	15,381	11	7	Rupees	3,658	10	11
				Rupees	15,381	11	7

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A

COTTON CULTIVATION.

PRIZES.

No. 164 of 1861.

To M. J. Shaw Stewart, Esq.,
Under-Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letters Nos. 3866, dated 31st August, and 3877, dated 2nd September, both referring to the subject of the prizes advertised by Government for the production of cotton.

The communication of the Chamber suggesting a modification of the terms on which the prizes should be awarded in this Presidency being under the consideration of the Governor in Council, the Committee propose to defer drawing up rules for competition until the decision of Government may be received as to whether the prizes should be given for growing or for marketing the finest cotton.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. Brooke,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 6th September 1861.

No. 4643 OF 1861.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the REVENUE COMMISSIONER, N. D.
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER, S. D.
The COMMISSIONER IN SIND.

Copy of the Resolution passed by Government on a Letter from the Chamber of Commerce, No. 164, *dated 6th September* 1861.

HAVING consulted Mr. Goldfinch and others who could advise Government with respect to the best mode of disposing of the reward of Rupees 10,000, which the Government of India have authorised, in their Resolution of the 9th August 1861, to be offered during the next two years as a prize for the purpose of stimulating and improving the cultivation of cotton, His Excellency in Council finds that they, as well as the Chamber of Commerce, are all agreed in considering that Government will best meet the object in view by breaking up the amount into several prizes, to be given in each of the principal cotton-growing districts of this Presidency, instead of offering one large reward, the award of which would have little, if any, effect upon the general cotton cultivation of a Presidency whose cotton lands are situated at distances so remote, and so great in extent, that were but one prize given few beyond the district in which the reward would be obtained would hear, much less believe, that it had been given. Moreover, the amount, if one prize only were given, is so disproportioned to the amount of capital which would be employed by any single competitor, and so much beyond the efforts he would make, that it would be waste of money to bestow it all upon any one individual.

2. As observed by the Chamber of Commerce in their letter of the 24th August 1861, the season was too far advanced when the rewards were determined upon to aid in carrying out the object expressed in paragraph 3 of the Resolution, viz. "to expedite the solution of the doubts which exist as to the best soils and climates and modes of cultivation for cotton in those districts whence heretofore there has been little, if any, export of cotton to Europe"; and as the sowings for the present season had already taken place,

the only object with which the prizes for this year can be distributed is to encourage the picking, clearing, and bringing the crop to market in the best possible manner.

3. But as the main design with which the reward is offered is to direct the attention of all interested in the cultivation of cotton to improvement of the quality, it is desirable that the competition should be restricted to the *bonâ fide* cultivators of the staple, and that care should be taken to exclude those who would cultivate a holding in the hope merely of gaining a prize, and who would afterwards relinquish the culture; for were such a competitor to obtain the reward, it would have no effect in stimulating those to whom, in this Presidency at least, we must always look for the bulk of the supply of the home market, viz. the ryot cultivator.

4. To be of any practical good, therefore, the reward must be secured to the actual cultivators, and should be distributed in such a manner as to produce the greatest stimulus among this class.

5. With this view, the Chamber of Commerce should be informed that Government consider the Rupees 10,000 should be divided into four equal sums, and that separate rewards should be offered for the four following descriptions of cotton, grown by *bonâ fide* cultivators, *i. e.* persons occupying a Government holding or a plot of alienated land at the commencement of the Revenue year, viz.—

1*st.* — Guzerat indigenous cotton.
2*nd.*— Khandesh indigenous cotton.
3*rd.*— Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country indigenous cotton.
4*th.*—Foreign varieties, such as American, Egyptian, Sea Island, &c.

And that four prizes for each variety or description will be offered, the 1st prize to be one of Rupees 1,000; the 2nd to be Rupees 700; the 3rd to be Rupees 500; and the 4th to be Rupees 300. There will thus be—

4	Prizes of Rupees 1,000	Rs. 4,000
4	Ditto of Rupees 700	2,800
4	Ditto of Rupees 500	2,000
4	Ditto of Rupees 300	1,200
	Total	Rs. 10,000

6. The prizes should be competed for under the conditions laid down in paragraph 5 of the Resolution of the Government of India, with the following exceptions:—

CONDITION B.—The districts which will be considered to have a claim to compete for the prizes to be given to each description will be as follows:—

1*st*—*For Guzerat Indigenous:*

Surat, Broach, the Guicowar's Districts, Kaira, Ahmedabad, and Kattiawar.

2*nd*—*For Khandesh Indigenous:*

Khandesh and Berar.

3*rd*—*For Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country Indigenous*:

Sholapore, Ahmednuggur, Belgaum, Sattara, and Dharwar.

4*th*—*For Foreign Varieties:*

The whole Presidency, including Berar, the Guicowar's Districts, and Kattiawar.

CONDITION C.—As the time of sowing is past, and the rewards cannot now stimulate increased cultivation, the limit of the holdings may be reduced to half the size proposed by the Government of India, *i. e.* to 15 acres, all belonging to one cultivator.

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24*th October* 1861.

OPINION.

To carry out the intention of Government, and secure to the cultivator of the best cotton the award due to him, it will be necessary that the cotton tendered for competition should be sampled at the place of growth.

This would have to be done in presence of the Collector or an European Assistant, and the sample drawn should be placed in a bag, sealed, and sent to the Chamber of Commerce.

The Committee could easily decide on the merits of the various samples laid before them.

J. N. F

No. 4644 OF 1861.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,

Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Under-Secretary Stewart's letter No. 3877, dated the 2nd ultimo, I am directed to annex, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, copy of a Resolution this day passed by Government on the subject of prizes for the purpose of stimulating and improving the cultivation of cotton, wherein His Excellency in Council has determined to break up the sum of Rs. 10,000 (ten thousand) sanctioned by the Government of India into—

4	prizes of Rs.	1,000	each.
4	ditto of Rs.	700	,,
4	ditto of Rs.	500	,,
4	ditto of Rs.	300	,,

to be offered for the following varieties of cotton, separately:—

1*st*—Guzerat indigenous cotton.

2*nd*—Khandesh indigenous cotton.

3*rd*—Deccan and Southern Mahratta Country indigenous cotton.

4*th*—Foreign varieties, such as American, Egyptian, Sea Island, &c.

2. As laid down in the Resolution of the Government of India dated 9th August last, I am to request whether the Chamber of Commerce will be so good as to undertake the task of awarding the prizes to be allotted in this Presidency; and if they will do so, to beg that they will favour Government with the subsidiary rules which they consider should be laid down to regulate the conditions under which the rewards are to be competed for.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24th October 1861.

No. 190 OF 1861.

To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 4644 of 1861, dated 24th October, referring to the cotton prizes offered by Government.

The Committee have given the subject careful consideration, but have been unable, without interference with the rules laid down by the Government of India, to devise any practical means by which the cotton produced for competition could, after leaving the place of growth, be identified as the *bonâ fide* produce of a certain holding. Without such identification, the prizes would fall, probably, to the most ingeniously dishonest, rather than to the most pains-taking cultivator; and the Committee, therefore, are of opinion that Rule E of the Government Resolution should be so modified as to require that the cotton itself should be sampled, if possible, by a European Officer of Government at the place of growth, and that the sample should then be sealed and forwarded to the Chamber, accompanied by a certificate that the cultivator had complied with the rules laid down by Government for competition.

The Chamber will be happy to report on the samples thus sent in to them, and there will be no difficulty in at once awarding the prizes.

Rule G also appears to be inapplicable to the present modified prizes, as it can hardly be expected that Natives cultivating only 15 acres of land will be sufficiently intelligent to furnish any practical or intelligible account of the system pursued or expenses incurred. Such information as supplied by them would be calculated rather to mislead than to enlighten the public. The Government officials, however, to whom the drawing of the samples may be entrusted, might perhaps with advantage be instructed to make inquiries as to these points, and to transmit the result of these to the Chamber, with such remarks as their experience might suggest: their knowledge of the people and of the districts would doubtless enable them to eliminate from the ryots' statements any information of value or interest.

The only subsidiary rule that would appear necessary would be that the samples should be carefully drawn, and should not be less than ten pounds weight for each variety of cotton tendered for competition.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 25th November 1861.

No. 5368 OF 1861.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To S. MANSFIELD, Esq.,
Revenue Commissioner, N. D.

SIR,—With reference to the Resolution passed by Government under date the 24th October last, No. 4643, relative to prizes to be given with the view of stimulating and improving the cultivation of cotton, I am directed to forward, for your information and consideration, copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, No. 190, dated the 25th ultimo.

2. His Excellency in Council desires me to request you will adopt early measures for giving effect, in the most complete manner possible, to the orders of the Governor General in Council and the instructions of this Government.

3. A similar letter has been addressed to the Revenue Commissioner, Southern Division.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay, Castle, 17th December 1861.

(True copy)

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 5369 OF 1861.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 190, dated the 25th ultimo, relative to prizes to be given with the view of stimulating and improving the cultivation of cotton; and to annex, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, copy of my letter of this date, No. 5368, to the Revenue Commissioner N. D.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 17th December 1861.

CULTIVATION IN KATTYWAR.

No. 113 OF 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—You were kind enough in 1860 to hand over to my agents a small quantity of Egyptian and American cotton seed for trial and report. Owing to the boat in which it was shipped having had to put into another port from stress of weather, the seed did not reach me until October, too late to try that year. Fearing it might have deteriorated, I procured, in March 1861, a fresh supply of Egyptian seed advertised by Messrs. Peel, Cassels, & Co., which I distributed to cultivators in my district. This, however, totally failed; whilst of the supply received from you, and sown in my own garden on the chance of its succeeding, the American portion totally failed, the Egyptian coming up well and strong. Both descriptions were sown at the same time, in black soil, in rows one foot apart, about the first week in June, after the first showers fell. To a few of the rows the guano and other manure received from you was applied; and in a plot adjoining, a small quantity of indigenous cotton

was sown, with common manure, as an experiment. As mentioned above, of the exotic, the Egyptian alone germinated, coming up about the fourth or fifth day, the plants which had the guano applied appearing the strongest.

Owing to other duties calling me away from my head quarters, I was unable to attend to the experiments personally. On my return in August, I found the plants much stunted, and apparently burnt up, especially the manured portion. Rain had not fallen in sufficient quantities; I therefore flooded that portion of the ground in which the guano had been applied, and the plants soon recovered; a seasonable fall of rain in September materially assisting them. Having to leave for the districts, the further conducting of the experiments had to be left to my gardeners; and, owing to their ignorance, the picking was carelessly performed, the cotton taken from the manured and unmanured portion was not separated, and the native cotton in the adjoining plot got mixed up with the exotic in a slight degree. I am unable, therefore, to furnish anything like correct results of the experiment. I have obtained a small quantity of cotton, of which I forward you through Messrs. Remington & Co. 10lb., in two separate packets, viz. 5lb. of white, and 5lb. of yellow. I am quite at a loss to know how this difference of colour comes about, as frequently both descriptions are met with on the same plant: it can hardly therefore be from the effects of manuring. With the samples forwarded is a small quantity of cotton picked from what I think must be American seed. I have only one plant of this in the garden, but send it that you may find out if I am right in my conjecture.

I have sufficient seed now from the Egyptian produce to distribute in my district in the Mureylee Mahal; and I hope next season to try the experiment again, and to be able to give you better results. A second crop from the present plants was coming on when I left, from which I hope to ascertain the general outturn.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) W. W. ANDERSON, Major,
Supt. Gaekwar's Contingent in Kattywar.

Camp Koreenar, April 4th, 1862.

P. S.—I see I have stated that the experiments were made in the garden; but this is an error—the seed was sown in

fields adjoining, in which jowaree had been sown the year previous. The cotton sample sent has been cleaned by one of Dr. Forbes's "churkas," two of which I have distributed in my district.

No. 49 OF 1862.

To Major W. W. ANDERSON,
Supt. Gaekwar's Contingent in Kattywar.

DEAR SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 4th ultimo, containing particulars of cotton experiments.

The sample of cotton which you imagine to be American is of a remarkably superior quality, and you would do well to sow all the seed, if you have not already done so.

The sample of white Egyptian is of middling quality, being a good deal mixed, as usual with cotton grown from Egyptian seed; its value may be estimated as equal to Dharwar sawginned, or say Rs. 280 per candy, and in ordinary times fully Rs. 140 per candy.

The yellowness of the third sample appears due to the bolls having been badly grown, and consequently have partially perished on the plant before picking. These bolls should always be ginned separately. The value of this cotton would to-day be about Rs. 160.

You will probably find that the plants grown from the seed you have collected will give better crops this season, as the plant becomes acclimatised.—I remain, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 9th May 1862.

CULTIVATION IN REWA KANTA.

No. 630 of 1861.

From Major C. Buckle,
Political Agent, Rewa Kanta,
To the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce,
Bombay.

Sir,—I have the honor to forward two specimens of cotton grown at Dohud by Lieutenant Atkinson. Each specimen is from one boll or pod. Lieutenant Atkinson would be glad to know the market value of each specimen now—that is to say, whether they would be classed as good, fair, or indifferent in the Liverpool market. This officer is endeavouring to satisfy himself whether cotton cultivation would pay at Dohud with Middling Orleans at 7*d.* per lb. in Liverpool, and I shall be glad if the Chamber will assist us with the information.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) C. Buckle, Major,
Political Agent.

Rewa Kanta Agency, Godra, 26th November 1861.

No. 199 of 1861.

To Major C. Buckle,
Political Agent, Rewa Kanta.

Sir,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 630 of 1861, dated 26th ultimo, enclosing two small samples of cotton for report and valuation.

Both samples are quite unexceptionable in every respect, but of course in practice it would be found impossible to procure any considerable quantity of cotton without the admixture of some kind of impurity, such as portions of the broken capsule, an occasional discolored boll, &c., all of which detract from the value. Assuming, however, that every reasonable care were devoted to the crop, the cotton turned out would be classed as follows—Middling Orleans at 7*d.*

New Orleans seed—good colour and staple, equal to good Dharwar sawginned, value 6½*d.*

Egyptian seed—good colour, mixed staple (as usual with this description), equal to fair Egyptian, value 8*d.* to 8½*d.*

The present prices are much advanced, Middling Orleans being worth 12*d.* Egyptian is however not now worth more than New Orleans, in consequence of the expected scarcity of the latter description.

It seems probable that even if the differences in America should be accommodated without much delay, there will still remain considerable irritation among the white population, and discontent amongst the slaves, which must inevitably tend to a disturbance of the peaceful pursuits of commerce, and result in a diminished supply of American cotton. It would therefore be tolerably safe to rely upon an enhanced range of prices for all descriptions of cotton.

The two cottage churkas and Wanklyn are ready for delivery on your appointing an agent to receive them.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 11th December 1861.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—I have despatched through the Commissariat Department, Baroda, carriage paid, about 100lb. of cleaned cotton of the New Orleans and Egyptian varieties, grown at Dohud from seed supplied by the Chamber of Commerce.

Samples were sent in October to the Chamber, which were pronounced by the Committee to be "unexceptionable in every respect."

I shall feel obliged by your kindly selling the quantity sent down for the benefit and encouragement of the cultivators.

A much larger quantity was grown, but I have not yet been able to collect it from the different villages.

I hope to induce the cultivators to grow a much larger quantity this year.

With thanks for the plough,—I remain, &c.,

(Signed) G. ATKINSON,
Assist. Political Agent Rewa Kanta.

Dohud, 20th February 1862.

No. 38 OF 1862.

To Lieutenant G. ATKINSON,
Assistant Political Agent Rewa Kanta.

DEAR SIR,—I have much pleasure in acknowledging your first consignment of cotton, which has been taken over by one of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce at Rs. 245 per candy of 784lb., which is the full mercantile value of the same class of cotton in quantity.

Although it is somewhat out of the province of the Chamber to receive consignments of produce, still, as the growth of cotton in your neighbourhood is a new industry, I have no doubt the Committee will receive any parcels you may send forward, and realise them for the growers at the best price possible.

It will probably be found that last season's seed will produce a better plant this year, as cotton seed is very liable to damage by time, and therefore the fresher it is sown the better the prospect of a favourable result.

Enclosed memo. of the value of the cotton to your credit, Rs. 25-10-0, which will be paid to your order on demand.—I remain, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 9th April 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 4th April, I shall feel obliged by your kindly paying the amount

realised by the sale of the cotton sent down by me into the Mercantile Bank, to the credit of my account.

There are vast tracts of waste land in the districts under my charge (recently ceded to the British Government by his Highness Scindia) admirably suited to the cultivation of cotton, of both the Egyptian and American varieties. I calculate the yield at an average of 80lb. of clean cotton per acre, and this in soil which was not manured in the least. The expense of cultivation and gathering would be from Rs. 12 to 15 per acre, according to the quantity of land cultivated. This would leave a handsome profit; but unfortunately we have no superior cultivating class, as in Guzerat. The ryots here being nearly all Bheels, content themselves with growing just enough corn, &c. to last them for a year's consumption.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) G. ATKINSON.

Dohud, 8th May 1862.

SUGGESTIONS BY THE COTTON SUPPLY ASSOCIATION.

No. 15.

REVENUE.

To His Excellency the Honorable
The GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL, Bombay.

SIR,—I forward herewith, at the request of the Manchester Cotton Supply Association, 250 copies of a circular containing information as to the requisites for the improvement of Indian cotton, and I have to request that you will take measures for circulating it, both in English and in a translated form, among persons engaged in the cultivation and preparation of that article, with the addition of any remarks which may be applicable to the cultivation of cotton in particular localities.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) C. WOOD.

India Office, London, 9th June 1862.

(True copy)

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Requisites for the Improvement of Indian Cotton.

THE Cotton Supply Association regard it as an established fact that India can produce cotton in unlimited abundance, and of a quality suited to the requirements of at least three-fourths of the manufacturers of Great Britain; and they believe that by taking advantage of the present opportunity, the ryots and others engaged in growing or preparing the staple may secure to themselves a large portion of the trade, estimated at about £40,000,000 sterling per annum, which has been of late years monopolised by the cotton planters of the United States.

One of the main causes which prevent Indian from competing successfully with American cotton, and securing a commanding position in the English market, is its comparative shortness of fibre. This defect may be remedied by the following means:—

1.—Deeper ploughing than is the custom of the country. Unless its tap-root can penetrate readily to a considerable depth in the soil, the plant cannot flourish to perfection. It is found that an addition of a few inches to the depth of the plough furrow causes a two-fold or three-fold increase in the quantity of the cotton, as well as an improvement in its quality.

2.—The use of superior exotic seed. In Dharwar and other districts, the yield per acre from American seed, with the present imperfect agriculture, is double that obtained with native seed; and the produce raised from it realises a considerably higher price than any other kind of Indian cotton.

3.—Sowing of the seed at regular distances, so as to allow space for the necessary work of hoeing, weeding, &c.

4.—The application of manure, combined with a proper rotation of crops.

5.—Judicious irrigation—an important operation in many parts of India.

6.—The selection of seed from the finest bolls for each succeeding year's growth. It is thought that on particular soils unsuited to exotic cotton, or where good foreign seed cannot be procured, this system of selection would effect a marked improvement in the quality of the indigenous cottons.

Another main cause of complaint against Indian cotton is its mixed and dirty condition. It is absolutely essential that the Indian planter should adopt the American system of commencing to gather the ripe cotton as soon as a number of mature bolls can be seen, continuing to pick it from day to day as it ripens, and carefully assorting the crop into two or three qualities, as its condition may require; also that he should use every precaution against the adulteration of the cotton with sand or rubbish. Attention to these particulars would amply repay the ryot for his trouble—it would render his produce of greater use to the manufacturer, and thereby ensure for it a largely increased price and a more constant demand.

To afford the ryot tangible evidence of the kind of cotton most in request in this country, and which it should be his object to equal, the Cotton Supply Association have sent out to India in large number samples of American grown Orleans cotton, which may be obtained on application to Messrs. Peel, Cassels, and Co., Bombay; Messrs. Mosley and Hurst, Calcutta; or Messrs. Line and Co., Madras, their honorary agents.

The Association issue this circular in the hope that British Government officers in the cotton districts of India will cause it to be translated into the vernacular, and distributed freely amongst ryots, Native middlemen, and others who can exercise a direct influence on the quality of Indian cotton.

No. 2939 OF 1862.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed to forward to you, for submission to the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India, No. 15, dated the 9th ultimo, together with 12 copies of the Circular therein referred to, and to request that you will submit to the Chamber the desire of His Excellency the Governor in Council to be favored with any

remarks which may appear to them to be applicable to the cultivation of cotton in parlicular localities.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 31st July 1862.

CULTIVATION IN SIND.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—In reference to the Resolution of Government dated 9th August 1861, authorising a reward of Rs. 10,000 to be offered as a prize for the purpose of stimulating and improving the cultivation of cotton in India, I am directed by the "Sind Cotton Cultivation Company" to inquire of you whether they will be allowed to compete for such prize?

As the Government, it appears, have authorised your Chamber to award the several prizes portioned out from the sum devoted by Government to the purpose set forth, the Sind Cotton Cultivation Company are desirous of bringing to your notice the fact of their growing the staple on a comparatively large scale, they having at present about 45 acres of land under cultivation and in yield. A sample of cotton grown on their estate has already been forwarded to the Manchester Cotton Supply Association, through Messrs. Peel, Cassels, & Co., of your city, and these gentlemen have, I believe, submitted a sample to your Chamber as well.

The Sind Cotton Cultivation Company are now in treaty with Government for a lease of land in the immediate vicinity of their estate, which is situated about 14 miles from Kurrachee, and it is their intention to devote the said land exclusively to the cultivation of cotton.

I shall thank you to inform me when the distribution of prizes is likely to take place, and of the latest date up to which specimens of cotton will be received. If you could kindly furnish me with a copy of the Subsidiary Rules regulating the conditions under which the prizes are to be

competed for, I shall feel greatly obliged.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. BETHCOME,
Manager Sind Cotton Cultivation Company.

Kurrachee, January 10th, 1862.

No. 10 OF 1862.

To J. BETHCOME, Esq.,
Manager Sind Cotton Cultivation Company, Kurrachee.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of 10th ultimo, I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to forward to you that portion of the Report of the Chamber which refers to cotton cultivation, in which you will find many papers of interest. The subsequent correspondence on the subject of the prizes I have the pleasure to hand you annexed.

The Chamber is unable to furnish any more definite information on the subject of your inquiry.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 4th February 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your esteemed favour of the 4th current, with accompaniments. For the ready attention thus given my respects pray accept of my very best thanks.

I have duly noted contents of the papers under acknowledgment, and will not fail to act up to the instructions therein conveyed.

I shall put myself in communication with the authorities here, preparatory to submitting samples of cotton grown by me to your Chamber through them, forwarding at the same

time detailed particulars relative to the mode of cultivation adopted, &c. &c.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. BETHCOME.

Kurrachee, February 18th, 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I had this pleasure on the 18th current, in acknowledgment of your favour of the 4th.

As one great drawback experienced here to the satisfactory cleaning of cotton is the want of suitable machines for the purpose, probably your Chamber could kindly put me in the way of obtaining a gin, or "churka" on the most approved principles. The only contrivance in vogue in the station is exceedingly rude, and ill-adapted to the purpose for which it is intended, being tedious to work, and apt to injure the texture, or rather staple. I annex a description of the "churka" I allude to; you will be enabled to form an idea therefrom of what is meant:—

This machine is worked by the cotton being placed in an opening in the centre of the shaft, and compressed by both handles being turned by two men. 10lb. of cotton can with difficulty be cleaned by the machine in a day.

As I have a comparatively large quantity of cotton on hand requiring to be cleaned, I am anxious to procure a good "churka."

As the Manchester Association, I believe, have subscribed liberally with the view to place such machines gratuitously at the disposal of those interested in the growth of cotton in India, probably I may be enabled to obtain one through the assistance of your Chamber.

A patent plough would be exceedingly acceptable as well.

I may as well state for the information of your Chamber, that Messrs. Peel, Cassels, & Co. of Bombay, forwarded me a bag containing Egyptian seed a couple of months since; it has answered exceedingly well on my estate, some of the plants having already attained a height of four inches, the seed, be it remarked, having been sown only so lately as the early part of this month. I should like much to try an

experiment with American seed, and if you could kindly forward me say 10lb. of the same, I shall feel greatly obliged, together with a small quantity of Persian seed, if any be procurable.

I must apologise for thus troubling you; the great interest I feel in the improved cultivation of cotton in these parts will, it is hoped, plead an excuse for the intrusion. In thanking you again for the ready attention my last received at your hands,—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. BETHCOME.

Kurrachee, February 22nd, 1862.

No. 27 OF 1862.

To J. BETHCOME, Esq.,
Kurrachee.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your letters of 18th and 22nd February.

Upon the subject of implements for the furtherance of cotton cultivation, your best course will be to place yourself in correspondence with the agents of the Cotton Supply Association, Messrs. Peel, Cassels, & Co. Messrs. Wm. Nicol & Co. have also imported some improved cotton churkas, the price of which is Rs. 85 each.

I will endeavour to procure you the American and Persian seed you require, and forward it to you per banghy.—I remain, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 8th March 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay,

SIR,—Referring to my respects of the 22nd ultimo, I beg to intimate that the plants produced on my estate from the Egyptian seed referred to therein, *although scarcely above one*

foot in height, have already commenced flowering! This I am inclined to look on as an unprecedented success. I mentioned in my communication of the abovementioned date, that the seed had been sown only so lately as the early part of last month; hence it will be perceived, that within the short period of a month and a half, plants have actually commenced yielding! I have deemed it necessary to afford you this information with the view to convince the Chamber that, notwithstanding the unsatisfactory results which attended the cultivation, in Upper Sind, of Egyptian seed, the latter will grow well in the province, if due regard be had to the time of the year in which it is sown. The soil is similar here to what it is up-country. I shall do myself the pleasure of submitting samples to the Chamber of the crop grown from the seed referred to, the moment the crop is picked.

Your esteemed favor of the 8th current is safely to hand; the contents thereof have had due note. I am exceedingly obliged by the kind promise you make therein, of forwarding me some American and Persian seed; I am extremely desirous of trying an experiment with these, and trust to be favoured with a small supply at an early date.—I remain, &c.,

(Signed) J. BETHCOME.

Kurrachee, March 28th, 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to request that you will be so good as to inform me whether the Committee of the Chamber have drawn up rules for the competition of the prizes sanctioned by Government for the production of cotton, and, if so, whether you will have any objection to furnish me with a copy of such rules.

I have the honor to state, that I applied to the Collector here to certify to the cotton grown on my estate, agreeably to the suggestion contained in paragraph 2 of your letter to the Acting Chief Secretary to Government No. 190 of 1861, and dated November 25th of the same year: annexed please find copy of reply to my application.

As I am desirous of competing for the prizes referred to,

any information for my guidance you can conveniently place at my disposal will be gratefully appreciated.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. BETHCOME.

Kurrachee, April 12th, 1862.

(Copy.)

No. 426 OF 1862.

In reply to his communication of the 19th instant, Mr. Bethcome is informed, that if he wishes it, the Collector will be glad to certify to the extent of ground under cultivation, and the ownership or occupancy of the said ground. With reference, however, to the fact of any particular cotton having been grown on Mr. Bethcome's estate, the Collector does not think it necessary to institute at present any inquiries on that point. If the Chamber of Commerce require the Collector's assistance on this or any other subject, it shall be given at once.

(Signed) C. J. KEMBALL,
Collector of Kurrachee.

Collector's Office, Kurrachee, 21st March 1862.

(True copy)

(Signed) J. BETHCOME.

No. 46 OF 1862.

To J. BETHCOME, Esq.,
Kurrachee.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your letters dated 28th March and 12th ultimo.

The Chamber has not deemed it desirable to interfere in the matter of prizes for cotton cultivation further than to recommend Government to permit the local officials to certify that the samples sent were drawn from cotton the

producers of which had complied with the terms of the notification. The Chamber cannot undertake to do more than examine the samples, and report to Government which appear to them the best.

As far as the Committe are able to form a judgment in the matter, there appears more prospect of success from acclimated than from imported seed; and they would therefore recommend your resowing all the seed grown on your land, with as little delay as possible.—I remain, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 3rd May 1862.

ADULTERATION OF COTTON AND SEEDS.

No. 3 OF 1862.

To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government,
Territorial Department, Revenue, Bombay.

SIR,—It has been brought to the notice of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce that the Government establishments at Broach and Surat for the examination and stamping of cotton bales have been or are about to be abolished, and I am instructed to address you on the subject.

The Government supervision which is now about to be discontinued was brought into active operation in 1850, chiefly through the energy of the late Mr. J. M. Davies, and has continued to produce the most salutary and marked effect in raising the character of the Broach cotton, which, from being the most adulterated, has become the most pure of the native seeded cottons.

By reference to letter No. 9185 of 1850, addressed by the Chief Secretary to Government to the Chamber of Commerce, it will be found that a regularly organised system of fraud existed in the packing of cotton for the Bombay market, the average adulteration having been found, on careful examination, to amount to about one-third of the weight. The consequence was, that trade in the article became in

a measure suspended, and it was justly feared that this important branch of commerce would be greatly curtailed.

After considerable discussion between Government and the Chamber of Commerce, it was resolved to put in force Regulation III. of the Act of 1829, and the chief leaders in the frauds were fined or imprisoned, and the cotton confiscated, but subsequently released. The effect, however, was almost instantaneous: frauds in the packing of cotton at once ceased; and, as already said, from being the most adulterated, Broach cotton became the best cotton in the market. This superiority has since been maintained.

As the object to be attained by the abolition of the Government supervision is doubtless financial economy, the respectable dealers at Broach and Surat have suggested that a small fee per bale should be levied by the Government inspectors, and that the establishment should thus be maintained. They express their entire willingness to meet such a charge, in preference to being exposed to a renewal of the frauds which previously rendered their trade so hazardous.

Beyond this, however, it appears to the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to be at the present moment of vast importance that every effort should be made, not only to preserve the character which this, the purest of Indian cottons, has already obtained, but to endeavour, by every means, to improve its quality, and that of other growths. The Committee, therefore, view with the greatest alarm the withdrawal of the Government supervision, which has hitherto been so beneficial, and they trust that the Government will consent to maintain the existing establishments, either at their own cost, or in the manner above suggested.—I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 20th January 1862.

No. 361.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Revenue Department, dated 30th January 1862.

READ letter from Mr. H. Brooke, Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, dated 20th January 1862, No. 3.

RESOLUTION.—The former practice of examining and stamping cotton bales should be resumed. The expense is to be defrayed by the levy of a fee from the cotton dealers, and the duty performed by special establishments, as proposed by the Chamber of Commerce. It is understood that the fee will be paid voluntarily by the dealers.

2. The above arrangement will continue in force only until an Act shall be passed sufficient for all purposes, as the supervision is a duty which belongs to the dealers, and not to Government.

ORDERED, that the above be communicated to the Collector of Surat, the Sub-Collector of Broach, and the Police Commissioner, N. D.

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

(True copy)

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

No. 362 OF 1862.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—In reply to your letter No. 3, dated the 20th instant, I am directed to forward to you, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, copy of a Resolution passed by Government under to-day's date, No. 361.—I have honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 30th January 1862.

No. 603 OF 1862.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I am directed to inform you that His Excellency in Council, after having considered the letter No. 3, dated 20th ultimo, from the Chamber of Commerce, with a view to further legislation, as contemplated in the 2nd paragraph of Resolution of Government of the 30th ultimo, is unable to perceive that further legislation is either requisite or possible.

2. I am desired to observe, that the Chamber of Commerce have recorded their opinion that the laws already in force have been effectual in suppressing the evil of which they complain, and that it is only owing to some relaxation in the energies of the Police that frauds are again becoming frequent. All, then, that appears to His Excellency in Council to be now called for, is renewed exertion on the part of the Police; and as the Chamber of Commerce state that the respectable dealers at Surat and Broach have suggested that an establishment should be maintained, paid for by a small fee levied on every bale, the Superintendents of Police at those two ports will be directed to place themselves in communication with the merchants there, and ascertain what establishment the subscriptions or fees from the merchants will maintain, and, if possible, organise a sufficient establishment at each place.

3. You are requested to state whether there are any other ports where it appears to the Chamber of Commerce that it would be desirable that the Superintendents of Police should try to place similar establishments, the dealers paying the expenses.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 15th February 1862.

No. 28 of 1862.

To J. B. Peile, Esq.,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 603 of 1862, dated 15th February, with reference to the resumption of the practice of stamping bales of cotton by the police authorities, and inquiring whether, in the opinion of the Chamber, this practice should, if possible, be extended to other ports.

The Committee have no hesitation in stating their belief that the extension of this system would be found of very great benefit to those principally concerned, viz. the producers and dealers in the superior qualities of East India cotton.

It is generally believed that inferior sawginned Khandesh cotton has been this season to a very large extent fraudulently substituted by dealers having contracts to deliver Dharwar sawginned cotton—a very superior description, the produce of American seed.

It is also a well established fact, that cotton grown in the Deccan and Khandesh, and of comparatively indifferent quality, is systematically passed off as Oomrawuttee cotton—a superior kind grown in Berar.

As an effectual remedy for so unsatisfactory a state of matters, the Committee suggest the appointment of inspectors at the principal railway stations, shipping ports, and other convenient points of transit, with power to stamp the bags of cotton, as they pass, with the name of the locality whence they have come.

By means, also, of these inspectors, infringements of Regulation III. of 1829 could be brought to light, and the offenders punished. Should it be found unadvisable to adopt this suggestion of the Chamber to its full extent, the Committee would at all events respectfully impress on Government, as soon as the transfer of North Canara to this Presidency is completed, the urgent necessity of bringing the provisions of the above Regulation into force in Compta, where it is believed

fraudulent adulteration of cotton is a recognised avocation. —I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 10th March 1862.

No. 30 OF 1862.

To B. H. ELLIS, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to bring to your notice that it has become the practice to adulterate linseed in transit to Bombay to so great an extent, that the admixture of earth and stones now amounts to about ten to twelve per cent. of the weight, while the unavoidable loss by dust and impurities should not exceed two to three per cent.

It is alleged that the following dealers make a common practice of this fraud, in godowns taken for the purpose at the places named—

* * * * * *

and the Chamber would therefore respectfully request that the attention of the police of the district may, through the Collector, be called to this fraudulent practice, with the view of duly punishing the delinquents.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 11th March 1862.

No. 1008 OF 1862.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 11th instant, No. 30, requesting that measures may be adopted for checking the practice of adulterating

linseed in the towns of Sholapore and Indapore; and to inform you that the attention of the Commissioner of Police in the Southern Division, and of the Magistrates of Sholapore and Poona, has been drawn to the practices complained of.

2. I am at the same time desired to draw the attention of the Chamber of Commerce to the provisions of the new Penal Code, and to request that the Chamber will cause information of any offence against it to be laid before the Magistrate of the Zilla where it occurs.

3. I am further desired to inform you, that Government refrain from mentioning to the Magistrates the names of the dealers mentioned by you; this the Chamber can do, if prepared to prove their allegations.—I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) M. J. SHAW STEWART,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24th March 1862.

No. 1498 OF 1862.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—In continuation of my letter No. 1137, dated 7th ultimo, to your address, I have the honour, by direction of His Excellency the Governor in Council, to forward for the information of the Chamber of Commerce copy of a communication and enclosures from the Commissioner of Police Northern Division, showing the measures adopted for the prevention of cotton adulteration.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) M. J. SHAW STEWART,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 5th May 1862.

No. 369 of 1862.

Judicial Department.

From B. H. Ellis, Esq.,
Commissioner of Police, Northern Division,
To M. J. Shaw Stewart, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Sir,—With reference to your letter to the address of the Chamber of Commerce, No. 1137, of 7th April 1862, on the subject of the fraudulent packing of cotton, I have the honor to forward copies of the following correspondence:—

Broach Acting Joint Magistrate's letter No. 256, dated 5th April 1862.

Reply No. 368, dated 14th April 1862.

Khandesh Magistrate's letter No. 697, dated 26th March 1862, with accompaniment.

Reply No. 367, dated 14th April 1862.

2. Government will observe that the Magistrates of the important cotton districts of Broach and Khandesh are fully prepared to enforce the law for the prevention of cotton adulteration.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) B. H. Ellis,
Commissioner of Police, N. D.

Police Commissioner's Office, Tanna Districts, Mahim, 15th April 1862.

No. 256 of 1862.

Judicial Department.

From E. W. Ravenscroft, Esq.,
Acting Joint Magistrate of Broach,
To B. H. Ellis, Esq.,
Police Commissioner, N. D.

Sir,—I see repeatedly in the English newspapers complaints of the quality and packing of the cotton sent from India. More stress, however, is laid on the fact that much fraud is perpetrated in the packing of the bales, than that the cotton itself is intrinsically bad. These complaints are

re-echoed by the Bombay merchants, and I see that at the last meeting of the Bombay Legislative Council, the Honorable Mr. Scott asked whether Government intended to interfere in the matter. The President of the Council then explained that the law (Regulation III. of 1829) in force was quite ample, as it severely punished any person packing or offering for sale cotton fraudulently deteriorated, and the magisterial authorities were quite prepared to carry out the law fully and promptly.

2. As Joint Magistrate in charge of a large cotton-growing and cotton-exporting district, Government will not, I trust, think me presumptuous in bearing out the latter part of the Honorable Mr. Frere's assertion, and in offering the few following remarks, more particularly as regards the words used by the Honorable Mr. Frere—"The merchants have the remedy in their own hands; for if they will only unite to bring the offenders forward, Government will take care that the law is enforced."

3. There are in this Joint Magistracy but two ports of shipment for cotton, namely Tankaria and Broach. At each of these ports are Karkoons, placed by Government, whose sole duty it is to test* every bale of cotton prior to its being shipped for export, and to stop any bale that, on being examined, appears to be fraudulently packed. Any such bale is directly sent to the Joint Magistrate, who, should he think Regulation III. of 1829 has been infringed, at once indicts the parties concerned, and puts them on their trial. It is absurd to suppose that Government can do more than this; but the merchants, who are the persons really interested, might do a great deal of good by making some arrangement to see that the Karkoons performed their duties in an honest and thorough manner. If the allegations of the merchants, that the cotton reaches England in a dirty and fraudulently packed state, are true, the only inference to be drawn is, that the Karkoons perform their duty in a perfunctory manner. If this is the case, there has seldom happened an opportunity where it is more easy to apply a remedy to the evil. If the merchants really are as ener-

* By Government orders, bales of cotton examined in the territories of His Highness the Guicowar, and brought into this Joint Magistracy for shipment, are not examined here if they bear the stamp of the Guicowar's Government.

getic in practically looking after their own interests as they are in publicly enlisting sympathy on their behalf, they might easily depute trustworthy agents, to be present, one at Tankaria and one at Broach, during the testing of every bale. Should these agents really perform their duty properly, further complaints could not be made.

4. I may add, in conclusion, that every care has been taken to impress on the minds of the Native officials, and the dealers, and packers of cotton in the Joint Magistracy, that every infringement of Regulation III. of 1829 will be severely punished; and it was only on the 3rd instant that a man was convicted of this offence before me.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) E. W. RAVENSCROFT,
Acting Joint Magistrate.

Joint Magistrate's Camp, Mehgaum, Broach Districts, April 5th, 1862.

No. 368 OF 1862.

From B. H. ELLIS, Esq.,
Commissioner of Police, N. D.,

To E. W. RAVENSCROFT, Esq.,
Acting Joint Magistrate of Broach.

SIR,—With reference to your letter No. 256, of 5th instant, I would request your attention to the instructions of Government, communicated to you under date the 7th instant, consequent on a letter from the Chamber of Commerce.

2. You will perceive that it is held to be no part of the duty of Government to maintain establishments for the examination and stamping of cotton bales, but that it is essentially the duty of its officers to detect all breaches of the law, and to punish offenders with a severity which will deter others from the commission of similar offences.

3. A copy of your letter will be forwarded to Government for information.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) B. H. ELLIS,
Commissioner of Police, N. D.

Police Commissioner's Office, Tanna Districts, Nandgaum, 14th April 1862.

No. 694 of 1862.

From L. R. Ashburner, Esq.,
Magistrate,
To J. F. Sheppard, Esq.,
First Assistant Magistrate.

Sir,—I have the honor to request you will proceed to Chaleesgaum, and enforce the provisions of Regulation III. of 1829 with the greatest severity. You will find, by causing a quantity of Khandesh cotton to be cleaned by a Pinjaree and dried in the sun, that it contains from ten to twenty per cent. of dirt, and from five to ten per cent. of moisture. Berar cotton contains rather less than the above percentage, but still the amount of adulteration is large, and it has now become more than ever necessary to put a stop to this injury to the most important staple of the country. It will be necessary to take some pains to ensure that the penalty shall fall on the person who is most to blame for this adulteration. This person is the Wakharni, who purchases cotton from the cultivator while it is still ungrown, and prepares it for the market. The holders of Berar cotton having been guilty of the adulteration out of British Territories, must be tried under Clause 2 of Section I., for fraudulently offering for sale, or selling it, when so deteriorated; or a certain quantity of the cotton may be confiscated, and burnt, under Clause 2 Section II.; but the whole Regulation is applicable to inhabitants of Khandesh.

2. As this Regulation has hitherto been quite overlooked, and the cotton dealers been encouraged in their frauds by the impunity they have enjoyed, it will be sufficient to punish the first offence leniently; but they should be warned that a second conviction will be punished with greater severity. I would beg to remind you that Section II. requires frauds to be punished with fine and imprisonment. For the first offence the imprisonment should be nominal.

3. I request you will take similar measures with the cotton at Nandgaum, as well as that exported by the Malligaum and Bombay road. A few years of continued vigilance will, it is hoped, improve the character of the staple, and render it fit for the European markets, where the great objection to Bombay cotton is, not so much its short staple and natural inferiority, as the unmarketable state in which it is exported.

It was not until Regulation III. of 1829 had been enforced in Broach, that any improvement took place in the state in which cotton was exported from that market. The higher prices now quoted for Broach cotton are chiefly due to exertions that were made in that province, a few years ago, to put a stop to adulteration. There is little or no natural difference between Broach cotton and that grown in Khandesh; both are the produce of black soil of similar qualities, but Broach cotton now fetces Rs. 220 per candy and Khandesh cotton only Rs. 190 per candy—the difference is owing to the superior condition in which the cotton reaches the market.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) L. R. ASHBURNER,
Magistrate.

(True copy)

(Signed) L. R. ASHBURNER,
Magistrate.

Khandesh Magistrate's Camp, Pachora, 26th March 1862.

No. 697 OF 1862.

From L. R ASHBURNER, Esq.,
Magistrate,

To B. H. ELLIS, Esq.,
Police Commissioner, N. D.

SIR,—As the measures I am about to take for the suppression of cotton adulteration, and the improvement of the staple, will occasion much discontent and outcry of oppression, I have the honor to forward for your information copy of a letter. I have addressed to the Assistant Magistrates. of the Khandesh Zilla on this subject.—I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) L. R. ASHBURNER,
Magistrate.

Khandesh Magistrate's Camp, Pachora, 26th March 1862.

No. 367 OF 1862.

From B. H. ELLIS, Esq.,
Commissioner of Police, N.D.,

To L. R. ASHBURNER, Esq.,
Magistrate of Khandesh.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of a letter you have addressed to your Assistant at Malligaum (No. 694, dated 26th March 1862, submitted with letter No. 697, dated 26th idem), directing the enforcement of the law against the adulteration of cotton.

2. Since you issued your orders, a discussion on the subject has taken place in the Legislative Council, and Government have stated their views in a letter to the Chamber of Commerce. (Judicial Department, No. 1137, dated 7th April 1862).

3. The proceedings in the Legislative Council will have assured you of the correctness of your view in determining to enforce Regulation III. of 1829; while the letter of Government explains the extent to which the interference of the Magistrate and the Police should be carried.

4. It is perhaps hardly necessary for me to remind you that the punishments first inflicted on the revival of a long dormant enactment should be lenient. I observe that although you announce your intention of enforcing the law with severity in future, you have very properly directed your Assistant not to punish too severely at first.

5. A copy of your letter to your Assistant will be forwarded to Government.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) B. H. ELLIS,
Commissioner of Police, N. D.

Police Commissioner's Office, Tanna Districts, Nandgaum, 14th April 1862.

(True copies)

(Signed) F. FERNANDES,
Uncov. Assist. Commissioner of Police, N. D.

(True copy)

(Signed) M. J. SHAW STEWART,
Acting Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX 'B.

ROADS AS FEEDERS TO RAILWAYS.

No. 2778 of 1862.

Public Works Department.

To the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,—The Honorable the Governor in Council has desired me to request that you will draw the attention of the Chamber of Commerce to the Bill, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 30th ultimo, at page 1650, "to promote the construction of lines of communication as feeders to railways, high roads, navigable rivers, and canals," and to convey to the Chamber the request of His Excellency in Council that they will be so good as to obtain, and forward to Government, on or before the 15th proximo, the opinions of any mercantile men they may think likely to offer useful suggestions regarding it.

2. A copy of the *Gazette* in which the Bill is published is herewith forwarded to you for reference.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) Walter Scott, Major Genl.,
For Secretary to Government.

Bombay, Castle, 17th May 1862.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to request that the Chamber of Commerce will be so good as to favor Government with an early reply to the letter from the Public Works Department, No. 2778, dated 17th May 1862, regarding the Bill published at page 1650 of the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 30th April, "to promote the construction of lines of communication as feeders to railways, high roads, navigable rivers, and canals."—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) LYTTELTON H. BAYLEY,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Bombay, Town Hall, 18th June 1862.

No. 75 OF 1862.

To the SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 2778 of 1862, requesting the Chamber to obtain opinions and suggestions on the proposed Bill "to promote the construction of lines of communication as feeders to railways, high roads, navigable rivers, and canals."

The Committee desire me to convey to you their regret at the delay in replying to your letter, but have now to express their opinion that the Bill appears to them simple, and admirably adapted to promote the object in view.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 21st June 1862.

APPENDIX C.

TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.

No. 1671 OF 1861.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Under-Secretary Stewart's letter No. 1086, dated the 15th August last, I am directed to transmit, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the annexed copy of letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, No. 2320, dated the 27th ultimo.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10th December 1861.

No. 2320.

HOME DEPT.—Elec. Tel.

From W. GREY, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

To M. J. SHAW STEWART, Esq.,
Under-Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to paragraph 3 of my letter, No. 1451, dated the 31st of July, I am directed to inform you

that the Governor-General in Council is pleased to sanction, until further orders, the free transmission of weekly commercial messages between the Chambers of Commerce at Bombay and Kurrachee, provided that each message shall not exceed 100 words, and that every message shall be published by the Telegraph Department for general information immediately on its arrival at Kurrachee or Bombay, as the case may be.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, the 27th November 1861.

(True copy)

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 205 OF 1861.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Kurrachee.

SIR,—By direction of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to hand you enclosed copies of letters received from Government, authorising the transmission free of charge between Kurrachee and Bombay of telegraphic messages not exceeding 100 words, and annexed I hand you copy of our telegram sent on the 17th day of December last.

Kindly furnish the Chamber with similar information, as well as any items of news that you may deem of interest to the mercantile community generally.—I remain, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 19th December 1861.

(Accompanied by copies of letters and telegram.)

No. 388.

HOME DEPT.—Elec. Tel.

From W. GREY, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

To the SECRETARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to the correspondence marginally noted, I am directed to forward to you copy of a letter addressed to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, regarding the Telegraph Department, and in doing so I am desired to convey to the Members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce the thanks of the Governor-General in Council for the trouble which they have been good enough to take in supplying the information asked for in my letter of the 12th of June.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

To Secretary Chamber of Commerce, No. 1176, dated 12th June 1861.
From ditto, No. 151, dated 5th August 1861.

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, the 15th January 1862.

No. 360.

HOME DEPT.—Elec. Tel.

From W. GREY, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

To H. W. J. WOOD, Esq.,
Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 14th of August last, replying to my communication No. 1168, dated the 12th of June.

2. The Chamber was requested in my letter of June to favor the Government with their general opinion as to the efficiency of the Electric Telegraph for commercial purposes, and to furnish a statement of the total number of messages sent or received during a given period by any firm or establishment connected with the Chamber, showing what

proportion of them were delivered with reasonable punctuality and correctness, and in what proportion any delay or error occurred so material as to detract from the commercial value of this means of communication. It was intimated, also, that the Government would be glad to receive any suggestions the Chamber might have to offer for the improvement of the Telegraph.

3. The Chamber, it is presumed, has been unable to furnish the statement of messages which the Government asked for, as no such statement accompanied your letter, or has been received since.

4. The Committee of the Chamber, in reply to the request for their general opinion as to the efficiency of the Telegraph Department, state that they consider the department deficient in despatch and accuracy, though, they add, they can only speak practically as regards the latter. In support of their view on that point, extracts from the opinions of several leading merchants of Calcutta are submitted with your letter.

5. The Committee observe that they believe the unsatisfactory working of the department to be owing to "defective construction and bad organisation," and they express an opinion that if the construction had been entrusted to persons conversant with the European system, and not to mere theorists, "the chief defects now evident would have been avoided." The defects of construction here alluded to are not specified in your letter. It is urged, however, and perhaps this is meant as an instance of defective construction, that neither correctness nor despatch can be expected when the means of transmission are limited to a single wire.

6. With regard to the organisation of the department, the Committee comment on "the mistaken policy on the part of the authorities, who, for economical reasons, have thought proper to employ on low salaries, as signallers and copyists, persons, chiefly Natives and Eurasians, whose want of education and proper training renders them unfit for the appointments which they hold." The Committee add that they have also been informed that the inspectors are not sufficiently numerous to keep up an efficient supervision of the lines.

7. Lastly, the Committee state their opinion that "telegraphic communication in India would be worked more satisfactorily and profitably to the Government, and the public, if it were entrusted to private enterprise, for which capital could readily be found in England."

8. Your letter and its enclosure, as well as the replies received from the Madras and Bombay Chambers of Commerce to a similar communication addressed to them by Government on the same date as that abovementioned to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, have been communicated to the Director General of Telegraphs, and that Officer has furnished a report on the subject, a copy of which, and of the replies received from the Chambers of Commerce at Madras and Bombay, I am directed to transmit for the information of the Chamber, and at the same time to communicate the conclusions of the Governor-General in Council on the several points discussed in the correspondence.

9. It has for some time been in contemplation to put up a second wire on the line between Calcutta and Bombay, but the Governor-General in Council is quite prepared to sanction the construction of an independent telegraph on that line (which of all others presents the most likely prospect of a remunerative business) by a private company, if any persons are willing to undertake it. Six months, it is presumed, is sufficient time to allow for the formation of such a company, and if within that time measures are seriously taken for effecting the object in view by private enterprise, the Government will abstain from putting up a second wire, and will promise not to compete with any private line in that direction by reducing, below the present rates—or below the rates adopted by the company if they should be lower than the present rates,—the charge made on messages between Calcutta and Bombay, or between any two places at which offices connected with the private line may be established.

10. It must be understood, however, that the license to be granted for the erection of a private line of telegraph between Calcutta and Bombay would include a condition enabling the Government, whenever necessary, to claim priority of transmission for all public messages, at the same rate of payment as that charged to the public generally. Subject to this condition, there would be no objection made

by the Government to the construction of private lines of telegraph in any direction, from one part of India to another.

11. The Governor-General in Council is not prepared to make over to any private company, or individual, any Government line of telegraph already existing or projected, because he thinks it of the greatest importance that at least one medium of telegraphic communication between all the most important places in India should be in the hands of the Government, and entirely under the control of its own officers. His Excellency in Council thinks, too, adverting to the suggestion made by Colonel Douglas in the 11th paragraph of his letter, that it would be inconvenient to make over either the Hooghly or the Mutlah River lines to a private company, as these lines are chiefly occupied with messages relating to the business of the port. Should it be thought, however, that, exclusive of this business, there is sufficient correspondence to occupy a second line, there will of course be no objection to the construction of such a line by a private company.

12. With regard to the employment of a different class of signallers on the Government lines, and especially with regard to the substitution of European for Eurasian and Native agency, I am directed to call the attention of the Chamber to the remarks made by the Director General in paragraphs 3 to 6 of his letter, and to observe that, while it is impossible, without reckless extravagance, and an entire disregard for the fair claims of all classes to public employment for which they are qualified, to substitute Europeans for Eurasians and Natives as signallers in all parts of the country, it is also certain that, for the mere business of signalling, Natives of India are as apt as any other class, and that, under proper supervision, they perform the duty as well as Europeans. For the higher situations in the department, it has been, and will continue to be, the object of the Government to avail itself of European agency as far as possible; and the Director General will be authorised to employ trained European signallers in the principal offices, where the extent and nature of the business require the presence of men of higher education, and possessing other qualities in which, generally speaking, the Natives of India are found to be deficient. Natives are largely employed as signallers on the railway telegraphs, and it is certain that

no private company could hope to make a line of electric telegraph in India profitable as a commercial enterprise if it were to employ European signallers exclusively, or even to any great extent.

13. The training of signallers in India, so as to secure a constant supply of qualified persons, is an object which has engaged the careful attention both of Colonel Douglas and his predecessor, and it is one of which the importance, I am instructed to state, will not at any time be lost sight of. It may be confidently expected, that as the supply of qualified Native probationers becomes fully equal to the great and increasing demand for their services, a result which the present rates of pay and prospects of promotion seem likely soon to accomplish, instances of inaccuracy and want of despatch, so far as they are attributable to defective agency, though impossible under any circumstances entirely to prevent, will be reduced to a minimum.

14. The Chamber will observe, from the 3rd paragraph of Colonel Douglas's report, that the absence of insulation of the wires is referred to as one of the difficulties to be contended with in India in the correct transmission of messages. The question of insulation, I am directed to state, will be brought to a practical test, as soon as the new insulators, now expected from England, arrive.

15. The Governor-General in Council is desirous that it should be brought prominently to the notice of the Chamber that it is almost exclusively in the case of unrepeated messages that any cause of complaint arises, and that where repetition is resorted to mistakes do not occur. His Excellency in Council has now resolved, in accordance with the suggestion made by the Madras Chamber of Commerce, to allow refunds on unrepeated messages on the same conditions as those on which refunds are given in the case of repeated messages, with the further proviso that no refund will be given for any error in an unrepeated message arising from wrong figures being given, unless the precaution advised in the 16th No.* of the Telegraph Rules shall have been adopted.

* The errors which chiefly occur are in the numerals, such as *sixteen sixty*, *thirteen thirty*, owing to the sound and first three or four letters being similar. To obviate this, it is recommended that in all financial or

16. With reference to the suggestion contained in the 9th paragraph of the Director General's letter, that the repetition charge should be reduced from 100 per cent. to 50 per cent. extra, I am to observe that this reduction has been already carried out, repetition being now charged for at half price only, or 50 per cent. extra. The Governor-General in Council sees no sufficient reason for reducing the night charge, which is also suggested by Colonel Douglas in paragraph 9 of his report, this charge being made on a wholly different principle from that on which the repetition charge rests.

17. In modification of the proposal made by the Madras Chamber of Commerce, the date and hour of despatch *from the Telegraph Office* will in future be inserted on every message, free of expense to the sender, without any alteration in the present mode of charging for the address. The senders may still continue to date their messages if they please, but the sender's date, if inserted, will be charged for as at present.

18. On the whole, the Governor-General in Council thinks it must be admitted by the Chamber, that, considering the disadvantages under which the Indian Telegraph labours, especially the difficulty of obtaining a sufficient and constant supply of properly trained and qualified signallers, and the system of non-insulation which has been bequeathed to it under a belief that insulation in India was practically unattainable, its general efficiency, as the Madras Chamber of Commerce observes, is favourable. Out of 240,451 messages conveyed in 1860-61, only one hundred and thirty-nine (139) were complained of as erroneous, a proportion which is ·0575 per cent., or little more more than ½ per thousand; while of the commercial messages delivered in Bombay during April and May last, 92 per cent. were received with reasonable punctuality and correctness, 5½ per cent. with important errors or delays, and only 2½ per cent. so delayed or mutilated as to be useless. And the statement furnished from Madras, of commercial messages received at and despatched from that place during August last, is, it will be

money messages the sum be given in two forms, halving or doubling the amount, thus "Pay to my order Rupees 500 or half 1,000." When this is done, an error is of very rare occurrence.

seen, even more favourable. The Governor-General in Council by no means concludes that 139 represents the real number of messages in which mistakes occurred in 1860-61; but seeing that the Rules of the Department allow of refunds for repeated messages delivered in an unintelligible state, and for all messages in case of non-delivery or unjustifiable delay, it can hardly be denied that the proportion of complaints to the number of messages despatched does afford some criterion of the general efficiency of the department. The statements regarding the commercial messages delivered in Bombay during April and May, and those received at and despatched from Madras during August, I am to observe, are derived from the returns which the Bombay and Madras Chambers of Commerce have been good enough to furnish in compliance with the request contained in my circular letter of the 12th of June last, and the testimony which they afford therefore to the fair efficiency of the department cannot be doubted.

19. It is, however, freely and fully admitted by His Excellency in Council, that there is great room for improvement, and that instances of messages delayed, mis-delivered, and inaccurately or unintelligibly rendered, are of much more frequent occurrence than they ought to be. The establishment has been recently re-organised and placed on a better footing as regards pay and promotion,* and the Government relies upon Colonel Douglas and the higher officers of the department to use the utmost care and vigilance in preventing mistakes, to investigate thoroughly every complaint, to visit every instance of proved neglect with suitable punishment, and to endeavour unremittingly to make the telegraph thoroughly efficient, by promptly remedying such defects as can be corrected with the means at their disposal, and by suggesting to Government all other practicable measures required for the purpose.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

* Financial Resolution, dated 10th December 1861.

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, the 15th January 1862.

No. 440.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

From W. GREY, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

To H. W. J. WOOD, Esq.,
Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—In continuation of my letter dated the 15th instant, on the subject of the working of the telegraph, and with reference more particularly to the question of insulation, referred to in the 14th and 18th paragraphs of the letter, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying extract of a communication from Colonel Douglas, dated the 3rd ultimo.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, the 23rd January 1862.

Extract from a Letter from Lieut. Col. C. DOUGLAS, *Officiating Director General of Telegraphs in India, dated 3rd December* 1861.

I would wish to say a word here on the subject of imperfect communication and its causes. By imperfect communication is meant, that owing either to the absence of insulation, or defective insulation, or to unfavourable weather, or, in the case of lines well insulated, to deposits of moisture on the insulating surfaces, resulting from an excessively damp state of the atmosphere, a loss of the electric current occurs, and it is found impossible to send to the distant stations a current of strength sufficient to affect the receiving instruments there with that certainty necessary for uninterrupted correspondence. In such cases, some of the dots and bars composing our letters, as it were drop out, and the word of which they form a part is rendered unintelligible; or it may occur, that from the same cause a letter becomes split up into two, producing similar confusion.

From the above it will be seen that imperfect communication is not limited to uninsulated lines; it may occur, under

certain circumstances of weather, with those lines that are provided with even the best known means of insulation. In densely populated countries, where the distances between telegraph offices are short, this difficulty is overcome by employing large battery power, but over the enormous spans of the lines in India it is practically and theoretically demonstrable that no amount of battery power would be sufficient, under the circumstances I have mentioned, to force a current sufficiently strong for effectively working any instruments hitherto practically employed for telegraph purposes.

The following extracts from "Prescott's Theory and Practice of the Electric Telegraph," published in America in 1860, will illustrate the facts I have just stated:—

Extract No. 1.—Upon a long telegraphic circuit there is a constant tendency for the current upon the line to pass off into the earth; this passage of the current into the earth we call 'escape.' There are no lines in the world, probably—certainly none in the United States—whose insulation is so perfect as not to be more or less affected by this escape. It is much greater during wet weather; but all lines are more or less affected at all times."

Extract No. 2.—"During very wet weather, however, unless the line be very well insulated, a great portion of the current escapes; and it sometimes happens that a battery of fifty cups of Grove can scarcely affect the armature of a sensitive electro-magnet at a distance of even one hundred miles, the remainder of the current escaping, a little at each pole, during this entire length of line."

Extract No. 3.—"It does not matter how perfect our apparatus is in other respects; if the insulation is defective, it is a constant source of annoyance, and causes, oftentimes, great loss of business. Much can be done by increasing the power of the batteries, and by distributing them along the line; still the disagreeable fact ought not to be withheld, that in rainy or foggy weather, not one of our telegraph lines in this country is reliable, or, if they work at all, it is only from one short station to another, and that with much difficulty. But this is also the case in England, France, Germany; in a word, in every country where the electric telegraph has been introduced."

Extract No. 4.—"Our principal lines work very well during dry weather, when, in fact, scarcely any insulation,

beyond the dry poles, is needed; but let a shower even come up, and all the wires are seriously affected by escape.

"It is not an unfrequent occurrence, during the rainy season, for all communication between the important cities of New York and Boston by the wires to be suspended, notwithstanding there are no less than eight direct lines extending between the two places."

The above extracts will, I doubt not, be considered as authorising the expectation that imperfect communication during severe rainy weather is a sufficient explanation of the bad working of our uninsulated Indian lines, which has been so frequently a cause of complaint during the past rainy season.

No. 442.

Copy of the foregoing papers forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, for information, in continuation of letter No. 338, dated the 15th instant.

(Signed) A. M. MONTEATH,
Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

Home Department, the 23rd January 1862.

No. 63 OF 1862.

To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government,
General Department, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to call your attention to a notification contained in the *Calcutta Gazette* of 30th April, relative to the discontinuance of the transmission of public news by telegraph throughout India, and confirming the arrangement by which the press would receive priority in the despatch of their messages.

The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce see little objection to the proposed priority of despatch in so far as messages containing merely political or other intelligence of

general interest are concerned; but they would deprecate most strongly this priority in the case of messages of commercial importance: it would be liable to abuse at all times; but particularly so at a time like the present, when our markets are so peculiarly sensitive, and liable to such sudden and great fluctuations.

As an instance of the manner in which such priority of information with regard to the position of the home markets, &c., would, in the Committee's opinion, be very liable to abuse, I would mention the time bargain speculation in cotton, which, as Government are doubtless aware, has attained to so great a height within the last two years, as seriously to interfere with legitimate trade.

In connection with a system of speculation such as this, certain priority of intelligence becomes of the utmost value; and the Committee would respectfully suggest, that so much power should not be placed in the hands of the employés of a newspaper office. Government will at once see how liable such a system would be to gross abuse.

It appears to the Committee, that the risk would be in a great measure obviated by making the Chamber itself, as the representative of the mercantile community, the first recipient of commercial intelligence from England, by letting the press still have their priority of general information, but by permitting no message reporting upon the position of markets, &c., or giving other similar information, to pass along the line until that to the Chamber has gone forward. If the priority of commercial intelligence were thus conceded to the Chamber, they would undertake to place a copy of their messages at once in a conspicuous place in the Chamber's rooms, and to furnish a copy to each of the local papers, and to Government, if necessary.

Should Government agree with the Chamber in this matter, steps will be taken to insure for the proposed messages the greatest accuracy, and the latest information.

Before concluding, the Chamber would respectfully urge upon Government the necessity of inquiry into the cause of the extraordinary breaks in the telegraph line between Bombay and Galle, which occur so frequently immediately after the arrival at the latter port of the mail steamers from England, and when only a few messages have been transmitted. The late frequency of such interruptions of communi-

cation has been attracting much attention, and is calculated to throw discredit on the Telegraph Department.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) MICHAEL H. SCOTT,
Chairman.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 30th May 1862.

NO. 65 OF 1862.

To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government,
General Department.

SIR,—With reference to the concluding paragraph of my letter of 30th May, I have the honor again to call the attention of Government to the fact, that although the public news by the Calcutta steamer which arrived at Galle on the 2nd June were received here by telegraph on the same afternoon, no private telegrams for any member of the Chamber have yet come forward, owing, I am informed, to another interruption on the line.

The Committee of the Chamber would again most respectfully but urgently beg Government to institute an inquiry into the cause of these constant strange interruptions: they have seldom taken place without its being currently reported in the bazar that one or two messages, addressed to Native merchants, have come forward prior to the interruption taking place; and this point the Committee would specially commend to the investigation of Government.

I have just been informed by the Superintendent of Telegraphs, Bombay Circle, that the commercial messages were received *viâ* Calcutta and Indóre, and that as an interruption exists between Dharwar and Bellary, all private messages will be conveyed between these stations by the regular post. The Chamber would respectfully inquire why the former route was not adopted in the case of the private messages also?—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) M. H. SCOTT,
Chairman.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 4th June 1862.

No. 1660 OF 1862.

To the CHAIRMAN of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to inform you that copies of your letters Nos. 63 and 65, dated respectively the 30th May and 4th June 1862, have this day been forwarded for the consideration and orders of the Government of India.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
For Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 16th June 1862.

No. 3805.

HOME DEPARTMENT.—Elec. Tel.

From E. C. BAYLEY, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

To Lieut. Colonel C. DOUGLAS,
Director General of Telegraphs in India.

SIR,—With reference to your letters No. 620, dated the 8th instant, and No. 657, of the 11th idem, I am desired by the Governor-General in Council to communicate to you the following instructions in respect of the transmission from Bombay and Galle of telegrams for the Chamber of Commerce and the public press:—

I. Messages for the Chamber of Commerce to be treated as if they were Government messages, and to have precedence of *all* others, on the same conditions as at present, so long as they are purely commercial.

II. All press messages received from Europe, if sent as received, and without alteration, to have priority over all other messages, and to be entitled to the privilege of clearing the line, without reference to the channel through which they are received at the Telegraph Office, but to have priority there *over each other* in the order of their receipt, and over private European messages, as well as over locally prepared

messages, even though containing European news.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) E. C. BAYLEY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Copy forwarded for information to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce.

Fort William, the 30th July 1862.

No. 3807.

Copy forwarded for information to the Government of Bombay, with reference to letter therefrom No. 1059, dated the 16th June.

(Signed) E. C. BAYLEY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 1369 OF 1862.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce, with reference to the correspondence ending with Government letter to their address, No. 1060, dated 16th June 1862.

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 15th August 1862.

No. 843 OF 1862.

RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—With reference to the Rule quoted in the margin, which, with the consent of the Government of India, has been adopted on the several railways in this Presidency, I am desired to request

"44. Private or Government Messages will not be received at Stations where there is a Government Of-

fice open, and at the time available, exception being made in the case of railway travellers, and in the case of messages sent to any other Stations along the line at which there is not a Government Office."

that you will favor Government with the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce as to whether they consider that the removal of all restrictions on the use of the railway telegraph lines by the public, except such as may be needed in the interest of the railway travellers, would be of advantage to the public, especially to the commercial classes, and whether they can give any specific instances of inconvenience caused by the present restrictions.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) HARRY RIVERS,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 11th August 1862.

No. 102 OF 1862.

To Lieutenant Colonel H. RIVERS,
Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge your letter No. 843 of 1862, dated 11th instant, on the subject of removing the restrictions placed on the use of the Railway Company's Telegraphs.

The Committee are very strongly of opinion that the interest of the public requires the removal of all restrictions on the use of the railway telegraphs, and are glad to observe that the Government have already rescinded them.

It is matter of notoriety, that the Government telegraph is extremely dilatory, and in the case of Poona, the delays are unaccountably great, telegrams frequently taking two days in transmission. The Committee believe that no measure will be so effective in inducing greater energy on the part of Government officials than subjecting them to the ordeal of competition.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 30th August 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—The completion of telegraph communication between London and Alexandria will enable the public to receive intelligence of several days' later date than they now obtain; and with the view of availing themselves of the facility thus afforded, the Members of this Chamber are desirous of making arrangements for the transmission by that channel of the weekly commercial report, officially prepared for their use by their London correspondent, Mr. Charles Lane. But before they can determine to take a step, which will no doubt be attended with considerable expense, I am desired by the Committee to submit the matter to the Madras and Bombay Chambers, with the suggestion that the form of report be so modified as to embrace the requirements of the commercial community of the three Presidencies.

You are aware that for the last six years this Chamber alone has borne the cost incurred in transmitting, at first twice a month, and subsequently once a week, the commercial message with which you are familiar; and it is submitted, that in adopting the more expensive means of obtaining news, in which mercantile men generally are interested, whether in Calcutta, Madras, or Bombay, it is but reasonable that the burden should be borne by *all*, in proportion to the extent of the information in which one section is more immediately concerned than another. The heaviest portion will naturally be borne by this Chamber, and we shall be very glad to bear it if the other Chambers will subscribe the balance.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) H. W. J. WOOD,
Secretary.

Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, 9th Dec. 1861.

No. 11 OF 1862.

To H. W. J. WOOD, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your

letters of 9th and 26th December, with reference to the employment of the telegraph *viâ* Alexandria, and requesting a statement of monthly exports of opium for the last fifteen years.

In consequence of the old records in the Custom House having been imperfectly preserved and arranged, it has been found necessary to complete the deficient portion from private sources of information, and hence considerable delay has ensued. I have now, however, the pleasure to hand you a complete statement for the last fourteen years, viz. from 1848 to 1861, both inclusive;—the details of 1846 and 1847 are not obtainable.

The Members of the Chamber have expressed their readiness to co-operate with the other mercantile bodies of India in procuring late information by telegrams *viâ* Alexandria, and are prepared to contribute in proportion to the information required.

The articles in which this port is specially interested are few, viz. cotton, coffee, ivory, pepper, wool, cocoanut oil, and coir yarn. The information relating to piece goods, seeds, and metals, which would be interesting to your community, would suffice also for ours.

In order to avoid delay in the transmission by the Indian telegraph office of the messages intended for places other than the ports of arrival of the steamers, it will be necessary for the Agent in Alexandria to send forward all telegrams in duplicate, viz. one to the address of the Chamber of Commerce Bombay, or Reuter's agent at Galle, as the case may be, and another addressed to the Superintendent, Electric Telegraph, Bombay, or Galle, and endorsed "commercial news for the Chambers of Commerce, India."

The message will then, immediately on arrival, be transmitted to the telegraph office, and will obtain precedence of private messages.

I annex particulars of the qualities of the articles which should be referred to in the telegram, so that the quotation may be understood without details beyond the article and the price. Thus "Cotton eight pence half-penny" will be understood as referring to "Fair Dhollera in Liverpool."

The Committee would feel obliged by your furnishing them with the last three years' Reports of the Custom House, Calcutta, as well as forwarding to them similar reports in

future; if interesting to you, the Committee can obtain for you the Bombay reports from 1848 to 1861.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 5th February 1862.

Memo. of description of Articles to be quoted in the Telegram viâ Alexandria.

Cotton	Fair Dhollera in Liverpool.
Wool	Average Pathany in London.
Coffee	Native Ceylon in London.
Pepper	Half heavy Malabar in London.
Cocoanut Oil	Fine Cochin do. do.
Coir Yarn	Middling Cochin do. do.
Ivory	General result of sales, if any.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of arranging for the transmission from London, by the telegraph line *viâ* Alexandria and Jubal, of a weekly summary of commercial intelligence, for the use of the Chambers of Commerce at the three Presidencies, and elsewhere, I am directed to inform you that my Committee's overtures having generally been met in a cordial spirit, and a willingness expressed to contribute in proportion to the interest which the telegrams may have for the trade of each place, they are now prepared to carry out that arrangement immediately they are favoured with the confirmation of the subscribing Chambers.

They therefore submit a specimen message for your approval, which they believe embodies all the items in which you are specially concerned, and in which the commercial public of India generally are interested.

The annual cost of a *weekly through message to Jubal*, limited to 100 *words*, including the amount payable to Mr.

Lane, will be 10,000 to 11,000 Rupees; and it is proposed that this sum be contributed in the following proportions:—

50	per cent.....	Calcutta.....Rs.	5,000
25	„	Bombay	2,500
12½	„	Madras.....	1,250
7½	„	Colombo..... / Cochin	750
5	„	Rangoon..... / Maulmain ..... / Akyab	500
100			10,000

This division of the expense appears to my Commitee an equitable one, and they will be glad to receive the expression of your concurrence in what they now submit for your approval.

In order that no further dalay may take place in communicating with Mr. Lane, and carrying out this project of an associated message, the Committee beg the favor of your reply by telegraph.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) H. W. J. Wood,
Secretary.

P. S.—The fee hitherto paid by the Chamber to Mr. Lane for the preparation of four messages per month has been £125 per annum: but in consideration of the additional articles now required to be quoted, my Committee consider that the fee should be raised to £200 per annum.

(Signed) H. W. J. Wood,
Secretary.

Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, 13th June 1862.

Specimen Message.

Chambers interested in this Message.

Calcutta, Bombay, Madras ..... 2 Consols.....93⅞
Ditto ..... 2 Fives 105
Ditto ..... 3 Specie 240,000
(Bank Discount to be quoted only when any change has been made.)

Calcutta and Madras..	4	Indigo	active; shilling advance.
Ditto	3	Sugar	very dull.
Ditto Maulmain, Rangoon, and Akyab.	8	Rice	soft 10/3 afloat; buyers; Bengal dull.
Calcutta, Bombay, Madras	3	Saltpetre ...	declined six-pence.
Calcutta and Bombay..	4	Linseed	brisk; rather higher.
Ditto	3	Rape	scarce, firm.
Calcutta	2	Silk	dull.
Ditto	3	Corahs	no sales.
Ditto	5	Jute	active; six shillings advance.
Calcutta and Madras..	4	Hides	heavy; farthing declined.
Calcutta	3	Lac Dye	dull.
Ditto	3	Shell Lac ...	drooping.
Ditto	2	Safflower ...	quiet.
Ditto Maulmain, Rangoon, and Akyab....	2	Cutch	wanted.
Madras, Bombay, Colombo, and Cochin...	4	Coffee	advanced one shilling.
Ditto ditto....	2	Pepper	scarce.
Ditto ditto....	6	Cocoanut Oil.	one shilling advance.
Ditto ditto....	3	Coir Yarn ..	active.
Bombay	2	Wool	dull.
Ditto	2	Ivory	active.
Colombo	2	Cinnamon ...	active.
Ditto	2	Plumbago ...	dull.
Calcutta and Cochin...	3	Tallow	shilling advance.
Calcutta and Bombay..	4	Wheat	two shillings lower.
Calcutta, Bombay, Madras	4	Cotton	excited; farthing higher.
Ditto	3	Yarn	advanced half-penny.
Ditto	6	Shirtings ...	advanced three pence; large purchases.

99 words.

No. 82 OF 1862.

To H. H. J. WOOD, Esq.,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta.

DEAR SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your letter

of 13th ultimo, containing form of telegraphic message from Europe, and proposed apportionment of the expenses; both of which meet the approval of the Committee.

On the 30th May last, the Committee addressed a letter (of which annexed is a copy) to Government, on the subject of priority of commercial messages, and they think that the proposed message would be well entitled to priority. As this matter will have to be decided in Calcutta, it might be well if your Chamber were to communicate with Government on the subject.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 7th July 1862.

No. 9 OF 1862.

To E. T. BEAUVAIS, Esq.,
Postmaster, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to bring to your notice the great delay which takes place in the delivery of telegrams received by way of Alexandria, and brought in the ordinary Post Office packages from Suez.

The great importance of an early delivery of these messages, superseding, as they frequently do, the instructions received by the mail steamer, induces the Committee to suggest that their despatch and distribution might be treated specially, particularly as, from their costly nature, they are not likely to be extremely numerous.

The Committee would therefore suggest that all telegrams received at Alexandria or Suez should be made up in a special bag, addressed to the Postmaster, Bombay, and delivered into the personal charge of the Admiralty Agent, who could deliver it on arrival with as little delay as possible. These telegrams might then be sorted, and delivered at once to their respective addresses, either on application, or by special messengers appointed for the purpose, and charged for in proportion to the distance.

In the event of a serious accident to the mail steamer,

it is probable that in almost every case these telegrams might be saved, although some or all of the mail boxes might be lost.

It is obvious that all India is interested in the rapid receipt of the very latest information, and the Committee trusts therefore that the subject will receive your early attention. —I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 31st January 1862.

No. 950 OF 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—With advertence to your letter No. 9, of January 31st last, conveying the sentiments of the Chamber of Commerce on and their solicitation that some special arrangements be permitted and made to ensure immediate delivery after arrival here of telegrams from Alexandria and Suez, I have the honor to state, in reply, that orders have reached me to comply with the wishes of your Chamber.

In furtherance of the above, you will permit me to point out the advisability of causing postage on such telegrams to be prepaid at office of despatch, to guard against detention here to recover the postage.

I must further take leave to suggest, that persons deputed to receive the telegrams be instructed to come direct to me for them, as I have charged myself with the importance of seeing to their safe and quick disposal.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) E. T. BEAUVAIS,
Post Master.

Bombay Post Office, 4th March 1862.

T. H. BROOKE Esq.,
Secretary Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—Enclosed I beg to hand you copy of a letter addressed by me to the Secretary of the Planters' Association, Wynaad, suggesting that the Association should memorialise Government to open a telegraph station here.

The line of telegraph passes through the town, and all messages during the coffee shipping season could, I imagine, be received and despatched from the Sub-Magistrate's office.

The trade on this coast is rapidly increasing, and there is every reason to believe the number of messages despatched would yield ample remuneration for the employment of an additional clerk in the Sub-Magistrate's office.

Cannanore, the nearest telegraph station, is thirteen miles distant, and cannot be reached from here by a coolie, the most rapid mode of conveyance, under four hours.

I have no doubt several Members of your Chamber have already experienced the inconvenience generally complained of, and trust, therefore, that as a great portion of the coffee is purchased by Bombay merchants, who are likewise largely interested in coffee plantations in Wynaad, you will succeed in obtaining the influence of the Chamber to support the memorial of the Planters' Association.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) H. MAXWELL.

Tellicherry, 11*th April* 1862.

Copy.

To the SECRETARY of the PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION,
Wynaad.

SIR,—Having experienced great inconvenience and delay, during the last fortnight, in being obliged to forward all telegrams to Cannanore for despatch, I beg to suggest that your Association should respectfully memorialise Government to open an office in Tellicherry, during the coffee shipping season, for the despatch and receipt of telegraphic messages.

I shall forward copy of my letter to the Bombay Chamber

of Commerce, and request their co-operation in endeavouring to carry out this desirable arrangement.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) H. MAXWELL,
p. p. W. NICOL & Co., of Bombay.

Tellicherry, 11th April 1862.

No. 51 OF 1862.

To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to bring to your notice the large and increasing trade carried on from Mangalore, Tellicherry, and other ports on the Malabar Coast, chiefly for account of mercantile firms in Bombay; and to point out the great inconvenience occasioned by the want of a complete line of coast telegraphic communication.

The Committee is under the impression that this coast line had been resolved upon several years ago, but in consequence of the unsatisfactory state of the finances, it had been place in abeyance until an equilibrium had been established. The Committee trusts, therefore, that the subject will now receive the early consideration of Government.

This season a large businsss has been conducted, chiefly through the port of Tellicherry, and as the line already passes through the town, it would be but a trifling expense to open a station there, while the convenience to the mercantile community would be great. Communication might also be opened from Mercara to Mangalore, at no great expense, and it would greatly facilitate trade with that port.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 10th May 1862.

APPENDIX D.

PILOTAGE AND HARBOUR MANAGEMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am induced, by the recent wreck of the "Beechworth," to suggest to the Chamber of Commerce the expediency of an application being made to the authorities to have the shoals in Bombay harbour buoyed.

2. If there had been a first-class buoy on the western edge of the Caranja shoal, in all probability the pilot would have been aware of his position, the "Beechworth" would not have grounded, and thus much valuable property would have been saved.

3. I beg to forward a chart showing the position of the buoys I would propose to be laid down. These buoys would not be very expensive, either in construction or maintenance, and if those on the east side were painted red, and those on the west side white, and the fairway buoy black, simple general directions might be given, which would be intelligible to every commander, thus—

"Do not go to the eastward of the red buoys or to the westward of the white."

These buoys might have large figures painted on them, so that in working out in thick weather there would be no mistaking, when seen, what part of the shoal they indicated.

4. The landmarks for avoiding the shoals are seldom visible, even in the daytime, during the bad weather in the S. W. monsoon, and of course at night they are entirely undistinguishable.

5. I may mention, by way of apology for obtruding this suggestion on the Chamber of Commerce, that during the many years I was First Assistant Master Attendant, and Acting Master Attendant at Bombay, I frequently made this proposition to the Naval Authorities, and it was always favourably received by them, though never carried out.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) N. OLIVER,
Second Magistrate of Police.

Bombay Police Office, 7th June 1862.

No. 76 OF 1862.

To NORMAN W. OLIVER, Esq.,
Second Magistrate of Police, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 7th instant, containing particulars of a plan for buoying the harbour of Bombay.

The Chamber is about to apply to Government to appoint a commission to inquire into the whole system of pilotage, lights, and harbour management, when your proposition will be taken into consideration.

As far as the Committee are able to judge, your scheme appears to be well adapted to secure the object in view, and I am directed to tender you their best thanks for the trouble you have taken in the matter.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 25th June 1862.

No. 80 of 1862.

To A. D. Robertson, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to bring to your notice the inefficient state of the pilot establishment.

It has been felt by the mercantile community since the year 1852, when the subject was first prominently brought before Government, that the inefficiency of the pilot service is a standing grievance, requiring searching inquiry and radical reform.

The marked inefficiency of the department has been admitted by successive Commanders-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, and mild measures of improvement have been from time to time adopted; but, judging from the repeated accidents that have of late occurred, with little or no success.

The last discussion of this subject on the part of the Chamber was, to their great regret, somewhat summarily brought to a close by the resolution of Government dated 28th June 1859, to the following effect:—

"No good and sufficient reasons have been assigned for altering the present constitution of the pilot service."—"His Lordship in Council believes that, as a body, the pilots are most efficient."

But as the representatives of the mercantile community of this port, to whom the question is of such vital importance, the Committee feel that they cannot longer permit matters to rest in their present position; and they earnestly desire that His Excellency in Council may be pleased to give to the present representations his early and careful consideration.

At the period just referred to, the pilotage department was nominally detached from that of the Indian Navy, and some hopes were entertained that an improvement in efficiency would have been the result; but the Committee regret that there has been no improvement whatever, the old grievances existing in full, and, if anything, in aggravated force.

The recent heavy losses have again brought the question prominently forward, and it is hoped that, regard being had to the large amount of property sacrificed, not unattended with loss of life, the subject will now receive searching and

final attention, with the view of such a system being adopted as will place Bombay on a par with other first-class ports.

With this object, the Chamber would respectfully suggest that a commission should be appointed, in which the mercantile community should be adequately represented, and which should endeavour to devise a system of management for the pilot service which would give satisfaction to all, and afford due protection to the large interests jeopardised by its present inefficiency.

In the course of discussion during the long period of ten years, the following principles have been recognised, and have received the assent of those chiefly interested and best qualified to form a correct judgment:—

1*st.*—That a system of free pilotage should be adopted, under suitable regulations.

2*nd.*—That a large class of pilot vessels, able to cruise outside in all weathers, should supersede, or at all events be added to the present class of open boats.

3*rd.*—That a more experienced class of nautical men should be obtained, by a suitable increase to their emoluments.

4*th.*—That the executive head should be responsible only to Government, or to a board appointed for that express purpose.

The chief reason why their recommendations have not before been adopted appear to have been a doubt as to whether the port and pilotage funds were adequate to meet the increased expenditure; but since the severance of the accounts from those of the Indian Navy and Dockyard, this difficulty is now shown to have been only imaginary. The relative income and expenditure of the two funds appear to be as follows:—

Port Fund.. Income.....	Rs. 1,33,000		
Expenditure	71,000		
Surplus	———	Rs.	62,000
Pilotage Fund.. Income.....	Rs. 1,12,000		
Expenditure	72,000		
	———	,,	40,000
Total surplus for the year ending 30th April 1862.....		Rs.	1,02,000

Showing ample means for carrying out the most efficient system that can be devised.

Another question that has received consideration is the advisability of another light, further to the south-west of the port; but whether floating or fixed has not been definitely determined. The proposed commission might with advantage consider the whole question of lighting the entrance of the harbour.

The desirability, also, of more effectively buoying the approaches to the harbour, has been suggested by the recent loss of the "Beechworth"; and the Chamber has received from Mr. Norman W. Oliver a chart showing the position of the wrecked vessel, and that of the buoys he would propose to lay down with the view of preventing similar mistakes in future: this plan appears to have the merit of being extremely simple and inexpensive, and might be likewise taken into consideration by the proposed commission.

A list of casualties during the last twelve months is appended, showing the obvious necessity for some decided steps being taken in this important matter.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 4th July 1862.

List of Casualties since June 27th, 1861.

June 27th, 1861.—Ship "Atmosphere" fouled the ship "City of Agra."

July 20th, 1861.—Ship "Poictiers" fouled the ship "Iskandershaw."

July 24th, 1861.—Ship "Louisiana" LOST at Alibagh.

Nov. 29th, 1861.—Ship "Queen of the Seas" *grounded* on the middle ground.

Dec. 20th, 1861.—Ship "Belgravia" fouled the ship "Mandora."

April 16th, 1862.—Ship "Martin Luther" *touched*, in swinging, on Flag Staff shoal.

May 13th, 1862.—Ship "Beechworth" LOST on Caranja shoal.

June 15th, 1862.—Ship "Virginia" fouled the "Zouave."

June 15th, 1862.—Ship "Istamboul" fouled the "Lady Raglan."

June 15th, 1862.—Ship "Ally" fouled the "Nell Gwyn."

June 17th, 1862.—Ship "Joshua" fouled the ship "Veteran."

June 17th, 1862.—Ship "James Pilkington" LOST at Bassein.

June 21st, 1862.—Ship "Commodore Perry" fouled the ship "Campbell."

No. 580.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.—Bombay Harbour.

To the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
The CONSERVATOR OF THE PORT.

Letter from Captain W. C. Barker, Conservator of the Port, No. 129, dated 18th June 1860. Submitting a report on the Lighthouses and Light-Vessels, Beacons, and Beacon Buoys, of the Bombay Harbour, in view to the efficient lighting of the entrance to the harbour.

RESOLUTION.—Copy of this report to be communicated to the Chamber of Commerce, with a request that they will favor Government with their opinion on the general question, and whether there is any case for appointing a commission to revise the system of lighting the harbour. If so, how they would wish the commission constituted.

(Signed) W. L. MEREWETHER, Major,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 14th July 1862.

No. 129 OF 1860.

From Captain W. C. BARKER, I. N.,
Master Attendant and Conservator of the Port,

To RICHARD SPOONER, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs, Salt, & Opium.

SIR,—I have the honor of submitting the following report on the Lighthouses, Light-Vessels, Beacons, and Beacon Buoys of this Harbour.

2. I would premise that I am aware that of late years many and various schemes for the improvement of the port of Bombay, both with regard to the efficient lighting and pilotage, as also the harbour defences, have been submitted to Government for consideration, but little has as yet been done towards carrying into practical effect what every one acknowledges to be so highly necessary.

Lighting, Pilotage, Harbour Defences.

3. I am at the same time aware, that, in the present state of the public finances, it is hardly to be expected that Government will be disposed to undertake what is recommended in the following pages immediately; still I feel it my duty to lay before them what I consider so essentially necessary for the shipping interests of this great commercial port, and for the benefit of Government.

4. It is apparent to every one, that the port of Bombay is daily becoming of more importance, both politically and commercially, possessing, as it does, all the essential requirements for the establishment of an efficient naval arsenal, and all the qualifications of a great commercial port, capable of being rendered easy of access to friends at all times, whether by night or day, and at all seasons of the year; but at the same time, if not inaccessible, at least very formidable to enemies. It is, in fact, the very key to our Indian Empire on the west coast, and grand depôt for military stores; and it is indeed surprising that its great capabilities have not, long ere this, been more fully developed.

Capabilities of Bombay.

5. I propose, in the first place, noticing the boundaries of the entrance to the harbour, the lighthouses, light-vessels, beacons, and beacon buoys, as they exist at present; secondly, to suggest what I consider necessary towards the efficient lighting up of the entrance to the harbour; and thirdly, to point out what may be done towards protecting the entrance to the same, and of our mercantile fleet.

Entrance to the Harbour.

6. Kenery or Kundaree Island marks the boundary of the entrance to the harbour on the south side. It is a small rocky island, bearing from the lighthouse south, distant 11¼ miles, and is elevated near 100 feet above the level of the sea.

Kenery Island.

This is the point all vessels should endeavour to make, (especially during the south-west monsoon,) in running for the harbour.

7. To the north, the entrance to the harbour is known by Malabar Hill, with its low insignificant flag-staff, half way down the brow of the hill, and by the lighthouse. This latter is situated at the extreme south end of Colaba, and is elevated about 130 feet above low-water mark.

Malabar Hill.

The light displayed is a revolving light, visible from the deck of a ship, in ordinarily clear nights, about 16 or 18 miles. It is not easily discernible during the day, on account of the adjacent trees and buildings.

Lighthouse on Colaba.

The South-West Prong extends to the south-west of the lighthouse a distance of 2¾ miles, drying at low-water spring tides to a distance of 1¾ miles.

8. The Fair-Way to the entrance of the harbour is marked by a floating light-vessel, moored equi-distant about 2 miles from the extremity of the South-West Prong, and the foul ground off Thull, in seven fathoms at low-water spring tides. The following are the bearings and distances of the principal points from the outer light-vessel:—

Fair-Way.

Malabar Point Flag-staff, N. 4° 50′ E. distance 6′ 90 miles.
Lighthouse, N. 21° 40′ E. 4′ 53.
South-West Prong extremity, North 2′.
Inner Light-Vessel, N. 38° 50′ E. 4′ 68.
Middle of Thull Shoal, E.S.E. about 2 miles.
Kenery or Kundaree Island, S. 14° E. nearly 7½ miles.

9. This vessel (built especially for the purpose) took up her station early in 1842, displays a bright light at her mast-head from sunset to sunrise, is visible 10 to 12 miles from a ship's deck in clear weather; a blue-light is burnt every hour during the night, and a torch at the half hours. During the day a red ball is shown from mast-head, and on a sail being signalled a red flag is hoisted.

Outer Light-Vessel.

10. Notwithstanding that this vessel is moored with very heavy cables and anchors, she has broken adrift several times (twice during last south-west monsoon). Of course this is more likely to happen in very bad weather, when

such a guide to the entrance of the harbour (more particularly with a lighthouse in its present position) is most urgently required.

Fair-Way Buoy.

11. About ¾ of a mile north-east by north of the outer light-ship, is a large wooden buoy, which has a spiral top, painted red, called the fair-way buoy. This has also broken adrift several times, and of course is more likely to do so in very bad weather.

Sunken Rock Light-Vessel.

12. The inner light-vessel (an old dismantled schooner of about 90 tons) is moored to southward of Sunken Rock, and bears from the outer light-vessel N.E. ½ North 4½ miles. This vessel has a red ball at her mast-head, displays a bright light from sunset to sunrise, and a red flag at her mast-head during the day on a ship being signalled at the lighthouse. About ¼ of a mile to N.N.W. is a red buoy, marking the exact position of the Sunken Rock. The concluding remarks of the last two

Sunken Rock.

paras. are also applicable to the inner light-vessel and buoy. The inner light-vessel broke adrift once last south-west monsoon.

Beacon Oyster Rock. Dolphin Rock.

13. Besides the above, there is a beacon (a white stone pillar about 24 feet high) on the "Oyster Rock," a small lighthouse on the "Dolphin Rock," displaying a green light to the southward and eastward, and bright light to the northward, dark to the westward. This latter was erected at the close of the year 1856; but, strange to say, accommodation for the men necessary to keep the lamps trimmed was entirely lost sight of in the construction of this building; this is now being remedied.

Middle Ground.

14. The Middle Ground Shoal is defined by a chequered white and black buoy to the southward, and a back buoy to the northward;—both are of iron.

Flag-staff Shoal.

15. The Flag-staff Shoal by a large red buoy.

Northern Patch Buoys.

16. The northern patches between the last named shoal and Cross Island are marked by small iron buoys.

17. There are also small iron buoys, marking the northern and south-east edges of the reef off Butcher's Island, and a buoy marking the position of a small patch of rocks on north-eastern verge of the reef off Caranja Island.

18. Having thus described the principal points marking the limits of the entrance to the harbour, as also the light-houses, light-vessels, beacons, and beacon buoys, as they at present exist, I will now proceed to show what I consider necessary should be done with regard to so important a matter as the lighting up the entrance to the harbour.

Lighthouses.

19. Lighthouses should be erected, if possible, on the dangers they are intended to guard against, and not (as is the case with the present lighthouse at Colaba) two miles and three quarters within the danger.

20. The utility of floating light-vessels cannot for a moment be called in question where the coast is low, and where sunken rocks and hidden dangers extend a considerable way to seaward; but for this port, they are not only unnecessary, but often mischievous; for, as I have observed before, at the very time they are most urgently required, namely in extremely bad weather, they are most likely to break adrift.

21. Before the present floating light-vessels can be dispensed with, it is necessary to make a radical change in the present bad system of lighting up the approach to the harbour.

Lighthouse on extreme edge of South-West Prong.

22. In the first place, I would recommend that a light-house be erected on the extreme edge of the South-West Prong, where it dries at low-water spring tides. It should be a first-class revolving light, and elevated 150 feet above high-water mark, so as to be visible from the deck of a ship in clear weather 18 to 20 miles.

Flag-staff, Malabar Hill.

23. I would also recommend that a loftier flag-staff be erected on Malabar Point, so as to appear well above the trees and buildings in the vicinity. The approach to the harbour on the north side would then be clearly defined.

Lighthouse on Kenery.

24. Kenery or Kundaree Island is elevated, as before stated, about 100 feet above the level of the sea on its highest point.

I would recommend the erection of a lighthouse some 80 feet above the summit or 180 feet above the sea, to show a fixed bright light of the 1st class, so as to be visible in ordinary weather 20 to 22 miles from the deck of a ship. This lighthouse should be painted in alternate red and white broad bands or belts horizontally. The lighthouse at the end of the South-West Prong should be all white; then there could not possibly be any chance of mistaking one for the other, either by night or day.

Double Light not required.

25. A double light on Kenery was advocated by the Committee appointed by Sir Henry Leeke to report on the subject of an improved system of lighting and pilotage. I do not see the utility of a double light, which would of course be attended with double the expense of a single light, when the latter would answer every purpose.

Light and Martello Tower on Sunken Rock.

26. The Sunken Rock, I am aware, is very small, but it is by no means impossible to erect a martello tower thereon, which would assist materially in defending the approach to the harbour, and at the same time, by displaying from its summit a bright fixed light, of the 2nd or 3rd class, so as to be visible 5 or 6 miles from a ship's deck, would thus complete the lighting up of the entrance to the harbour. Both inner and outer light-vessels might then be removed.

Harbour Defences.

27. Thirdly,—with regard to defending the entrance to the harbour: the intervening space on the South-West Prong between the proposed new lighthouse and the southern end of Colaba might, in the course of a few years, be all reclaimed from the sea, and would form an excellent site for a series of batteries, which would thus add greatly to the strength of the harbour defences now in course of construction. For the erection of these works, we have ample materials in close proximity; and let it not be forgotten, that we have certain fine weather for at least eight months in the year, so that the works may be carried on progressively and surely.

28. But whatever may be determined with regard to the harbour defences, years must elapse before they can be sufficiently advanced to resist the entrance of a hostile fleet. I cannot for a moment suppose that an enemy's fleet would venture to appear, unless assured of the absence of men of

war sufficient to protect the shipping; but with the present fortifications, a couple of smart frigates, well handled, could, in my opinion, either capture or destroy the whole of the mercantile fleet, with almost entire impunity to themselves, as the ships are now anchored.

29. I would suggest, in the event of a hostile fleet being expected, the shipping be moved to the northward of Butcher's Island, and Elephanta Island, and to the deep water anchorage off the old fort on east end of Trombay Island: by throwing up batteries on Butcher's Island, Elephanta, Trombay, and on the northern end of Caranja, the shipping would thus be completely protected.

Refuge for Mercantile Fleet.

30. There is smooth and deep water close to the island of Trombay: by the construction of a few piers on piles or arches, so as not to obstruct the tidal scour, ships might haul alongside to discharge and receive cargo. This spot is only distant from the Railway about 4½ miles. Would not this obviate the necessity for wet docks, and be less costly?

31. By removing merchant vessels from their present anchorage, the guns on the eastern or harbour face of the fort might then be made available for the defence of the port, which they certainly could not be as the ships are now berthed.

32. Since writing the above, intelligence has been received of the total wreck of the American Ship "Squantum" some 12 to 16 miles to the southward of Kenery (exact particulars not yet known); which induces me to think, that had there been a lighthouse on Kenery Island, as suggested by me in the 24th para., this calamity would probably have been averted.

33. The erection of a lighthouse on the extremity of the South-West Prong could only be carried on during the fine season, whereas the erection of a lighthouse on Kenery Island could be proceeded with at all seasons. It would therefore be of more advantage to the shipping interests if the latter was first commenced.—I have the honor to be &c.,

(Signed) W. C. Barker, Captain I. N.,
Master Attendant and Conservator of the Port.

Office of the Master Attendant and Conservator of the Port, Bombay, 18th June 1860.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

MY DEAR SIR,—As I think it would aid the Chamber of Commerce, in complying with the communication of Government as contained in their Resolution Marine Department, No. 580, dated 14th instant, I send you the accompanying tracing of a chart, or rather *sketch* of Bombay Harbour and its approaches, which I trust will prove acceptable.

"The Harbour" is *reduced* from a two-inch scale by Cogan in 1828; the coasts to the northward of Malabar Point and to the southward of Kenery Island *enlarged* from the Admiralty half-inch scale, also by Cogan, and is quite correct enough for the purpose in view.—Believe me, &c.,

(Signed) W. C. BARKER.

Office of the Master Attendant and Conservator of the Port, Bombay, 17th July 1862.

No. 98 OF 1862.

To Major W. L. MEREWETHER,
Acting Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your memorandum No. 580, dated 14th July 1862, containing the Resolution of Government on the general question of lighting the harbour, pilotage, &c.

The Committee have read with attention the letter of Captain Barker, No. 129 of 1860, dated 18th June, and are confirmed in their opinion of the great desirability of a commission being appointed to consider the whole question. They are of opinion that an efficient commission might be constituted as follows, viz:—The Senior Naval Officer in the port, Master Attendant, Commissioner of Customs, two nominees of the Chamber, and two Captains of merchant ships, or men of large experience, formerly in that capacity. —I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 26th July 1862.

No. 741.

MARINE DEPARTMENT.—Bombay Harbour.

To the COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF I. N.
The CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Letter from the Commander-in-Chief I. N., No. 640, dated 15th August. Submits a letter from Mr. Kennelly, proposing a system of Lighthouses and Buoys to facilitate the entrance of vessels into the Bombay Harbour.

RESOLUTION.—Printed copies of Mr. Kennelly's letter to be sent to the Chamber of Commerce, for any remarks they may wish to make in reference to it and Captain Barker's proposed harbour improvements.

(Signed) W. L. MEREWETHER, Major,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 30th August 1862.

From D. J. KENNELLY, Esq.,

To Captain JAMES FRUSHARD, I. N.,
Officiating Commander-in-Chief I. N.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit, for your favorable consideration, the following remarks, having reference to the introduction of an improved system of lights and beacons for this port, more particularly in providing means whereby the shipmaster, otherwise unaided, may enter the harbour with perfect safety during the most violent periods of the south-west monsoon.

2. While in respect to the tonnage of sea-borne traffic, present as well as prospective, commodiousness, and safety, owing to the plastic nature of the bottom, the harbour of Bombay may be placed among the first-class harbours of the world; yet, perhaps, there is no other which to the mariner in the offing presents greater danger than it, during the heavy weather frequently experienced in the monsoon months of June, July, and August.

3. That this danger exists, is abundantly proved by the shipwrecks, whole and in part, which have occurred from year to year in the vicinity of the port, as shown

by the following list, which, I regret, is incomplete, owing to the absence of any record at the office of the Lloyds' Agency in Bombay prior to the year 1849.

List of Vessels wholly wrecked.

Names of Ships.	When wrecked.	Where wrecked.
'Competent'	May 1840...	S. W. Prong.
'Lord Castlereagh'.....	June 1840...	S. W. Prong.
'Lord William Bentinck.'	June 1840...	S. W. Prong.
'Royal Admiral'.....	July 1844...	S. E. Prong.
'Charlotte'	June 1851...	30 miles South of the Port.
'Christian'.....	June 1852...	Kenery Island.
'Jutal Barry'	June 1856...	Kenery Island.
'Julia'	June 1856...	Kenery Island.
'Bank of England'	July 1857...	Alibaugh.
'Alice'	July 1858...	Kenery Island.
'Natalie'	July 1859...	Back Bay.
'Squantum'.....	July 1860...	Close to the Port.
'Louisiana'	July 1861...	Alibaugh.
'James Pilkington'	June 1862...	Versovah.

Vessels partially wrecked, but brought into Port more or less damaged.

1849. 30th Nov.—'Aboukir,' whilst attempting to enter the port, ran on the Prong, losing her keel. Vessel much strained.

1851. June.—'Emperor' ran on shore off Chowl. Hove off with much damage done to the bottom.

1855. Sept.—'Hibernia,' entering the harbour, took the ground off Kenery Island, receiving serious damage.

1856. July.—'Mary Russel Mitford,' on entering the harbour, struck, receiving heavy damage.

1857. July.—'Tasman,' in running for the harbour, struck on the Prongs, and was beached to prevent her sinking.

1858. July.—'Adriatic,' when running for the harbour, struck, receiving serious damage.

1859. Aug.—'Macduff,' mistaking the harbour entrance, struck heavily several times off Alibaugh, receiving serious injury.

4. It will be seen from these lists, that from and including the year 1849, prior to which I do not possess reliable data, and during the thirteen following years, there have been ten ships totally wrecked outside and in the vicinity of the harbour, while seven, which had been on shore, were brought into port more or less seriously injured.

5. The estimated value of the ships and cargoes thus lost, added to the amount for damage sustained by the seven vessels brought into port, would not, probably, fall short of three-quarters of a million sterling.

6. Looking at the frequency of these losses, which, without exception, have occurred during the monsoon months only, the question arises—Cannot they be lessened, if not altogether prevented? In reply, I humbly hope to show that in less than two years, and with comparatively little expense, the port of Bombay can be made so safe and easy of access, during the heaviest weather, by night or by day, as will render the services of a pilot unnecessary, until the vessel running for shall have arrived within the harbour.

7. Before detailing the system proposed to secure this result, I would beg to state that, in the year 1856, while officiating Master Attendant of the Port, I brought to the notice of Sir Henry Leeke, then Commander-in-Chief I. N., the great need there was for a better system of lights and beacons than the defective one in operation, and at the same time submitted for his consideration certain suggestions for its improvement which were framed to meet the acknowledged difficulties there existed in making the port in bad weather.

8. I attempted to show—

(a.) That the light exhibited from Colaba was, from its improper position, as wrong in principle as it was pernicious in its operation; in proof of which, I cited the shipwrecks known to have taken place in its vicinity, and radiating from it as it were from a common centre.

(b.) That the objection which applied to the Colaba light, for a similar reason, would apply to one exhibited

from the Island of Kenery, situated within a dangerous shallow known as the Kenery Flat.

(c.) That the only efficient means whereby such difficulties were to be overcome, lay in placing a fixed guide at a sufficient distance out to sea, and to windward of the fair-way entrance to the harbour, as would render it no longer necessary for the shipmaster to approach danger in order to discover his position.

(d.) That, with this end in view, an additional light-vessel of 200 tons burthen should be moored with mushroom anchors in a position 7 miles south-west of that occupied by the outer light-vessel, exhibiting a bright light, to be termed the 'Bombay Direction Light.'

(e.) That a lighthouse, in substitution of the Colaba one, should be erected on the extreme edge of the South-West Prong where dry at low-water spring tide, showing a first-class revolving light, flashing every 20 seconds, and elevated 150 feet above high-water mark.

(f.) That no lights or beacons should be exhibited from the Island of Kenery.

(g.) That first-class iron buoys (Herbert's), colored red on the west, and black on the east sides of the harbour, should be placed at the salient points of the Prongs, the Caranja and Thull Shoals, and off the Sunken Rock; and that all other dangers lying within the port should have second and third-class buoys, as deemed to be necessary.

9. These suggestions, together with others on the subject of an improved system of pilotage, received Sir Henry Leeke's approval.

10. The system now brought forward is so far a revision of the foregoing, that where I recommended the direction light-vessel to be moored, I now propose in lieu to erect a lighthouse, dispensing with the proposed lighthouse on the South-West Prong, and eventually with the Colaba Lighthouse also, as will appear below.

11. Preparatory to further detail, it will be well here to examine into the nature of the difficulties which beset the shipmaster in his attempt to make the harbour entrance

during the thick and hazy weather experienced from time to time during the monsoon.

12. They are—arrival off the port; but, probably owing to the celestial bodies not having been observed for the previous few days, the correct position of the ship is not known; the known high land, and marks in the vicinity of the port, hidden by cloud and mist; the port, situated on a lee shore, and fringed with dangerous outlying reefs, cannot, without danger, be approached sufficiently near to distinguish the beacons marking its entrance; the dread of getting too far north, or, as it is termed, 'missing the port,' with the disagreeable consequences inevitable to such a mistake; and, finally, the absence of any known fixed guide to seaward, from which a departure could be taken before running for the entrance.

13. It will, therefore, be apparent, that the shipmaster arriving off the port, under the above circumstances, has the choice open to him of running his ship close to the shore, with the hope of discovering the vessel's position—a course perilous in the extreme, and hitherto too often attended with shipwreck,—or, on the other hand, of working in the offing, until the weather clears sufficiently to enable him to run to leeward and into the port. But that this latter course is not altogether without danger, in more ways than one, has been lately proved by the loss of the 'James Pilkington.'

14. I would now respectfully invite your attention to the manner and extent of the aid afforded at the mouth of the harbour to the shipmaster in these circumstances; and here I take leave to state, that having had opportunities of inspecting many of the chief ports of the world, I have not seen among them one where local difficulties so much demanded the aid of applied science for their counteraction, or where so little provision had been made for the guidance and safety of the seaman. It is laid down by A. Stevenson, one of the highest authorities on the subject of lighthouses, that 'lights intended to guide vessels from reefs, shoals, or other dangers, should, in every case where it is practicable, be placed seaward of the danger itself, as it is desirable that seamen be enabled to make the lights with confidence'; and again, 'views of economy in the first cost of a lighthouse should never be permitted to interfere with placing it in the best possible position; and when funds are deficient, it will gene-

rally be found that the wise course is to delay the work until a sum shall have been obtained sufficient for the erection of the lighthouse on the best site.'

15. The Colaba Lighthouse, elevated 132 feet above high-water mark, stands 2¾ miles within the danger it is intended to notify, the light flashing at the long, and, for its position, dangerous, interval of two minutes. In fine weather it is found so far useful as to inform the seaman that it is situated at the southern extremity of Colaba, from which, on all sides, extend dangerous reefs. In bad weather it is seldom sought for, owing to its lee position, and when seen, if not absolutely misleading in its effect, may be pronounced practically useless as a guide to the mariner.

16. The position of the outer floating light, taken in conjunction with that of the Colaba Lighthouse, is well chosen for its purpose, namely, to mark the Fair-way between the Thull Shoal and the S. W. Prong into the harbour; but from the fact that it is situated for more than a mile within the meridian of the western part of the latter reef, its action in bad weather is confined to the guidance of the ship already within the mouth of the harbour. The great drawback to the position is the danger of the light-vessel breaking adrift, owing to the peculiarly violent surging sea which, in the monsoon, occurs here, chiefly caused by eddies from the adjacent reefs, conjoined with an increased river and tidal action produced at this season.

17. The Island of Kenery is situated a little over eleven miles from the Colaba Lighthouse, with which it has a common meridian. The western edge of the Thull Shoal lies nearly midway between both, and touches this meridian also.

18. From the position of Kenery, it may be said to form the south-western extremity of the harbour entrance. Horsburgh, in recognising it as such, directs the shipmaster, when making the harbour in the south-west monsoon, as follows:—'During the early part and strength of the S. W. monsoon, great care must be observed not to get to the northward of the entrance of the harbour, for then the current frequently sets along the bank toward the Gulf of Cambay, and if a ship get to the northward of the harbour late in May, June, and July, she may find it very difficult at times, if not impossible, to work round the S. W. Prong. Therefore, in these months, a ship should steer direct for Kundaree Island, allowing for

a northerly set, and endeavour to make it bearing between east and south-east, taking care to borrow a little either way, as prudence may dictate and circumstances require, to carry a fair wind in entering the harbour. If the wind incline to blow in squalls from west or W.N.W., take care not to run too close in with the land to the southward of Kundaree Island, nor even to approach that island too near, on account of the flat, as there might be difficulty in weathering it with these winds, which are sometimes experienced in June and July, but more expected in August.'

19. This advice is the best that, under present circumstances, could be given to the seaman; for of the choice of perils, the least is encountered in running for Kenery, rather than towards the Colaba Lighthouse; yet, from the fact that a dangerous flat runs out from this island to a distance of three miles, upon which a violent ground-swell tumbles, it is manifestly an unsafe position to seek during bad weather with a view of making the harbour.

20. That this view is indirectly held by Horsburgh, also appears from the following, taken from page 461, Vol. I., 'Bombay Harbour':—

'An extensive flat surrounds Kundaree, with only 4 to 5 fathoms on it, at the distance of 2 and 2½ miles from that Island, having a heavy ground-swell rolling upon it in the S.W. monsoon, at which time ships ought not to approach the island nearer than 4 or 5 miles, nor under 6½ or 7 fathoms if possible.'

21. It is thus shown that the circumstances of Bombay Harbour are such as do not admit of the erection of a lighthouse on shore, in a position anywhere near its mouth, except where, for guiding ships, a light should not be exhibited, namely, from a position within a danger.

22. Convinced that the practical solution of the question of position for a lighthouse was to be found in placing it outside, to windward of the port, and of its outlaying dangers, I took the opportunity, in the August of last year, of asking the opinion of Mr. Wells, C. E., who had arrived from Madras during the monsoon, for the purpose of inspecting the site of a screw pile pier proposed for the harbour, touching the practicability of erecting a lighthouse upon a foundation of screw piles in so exposed a position.

23. His opinion was to the effect, that with a bottom capable of receiving the foundation piles, there would be no difficulty in erecting a lighthouse to the height of 120 feet above high-water, if required, and so constructed as to withstand the combined effects of the most violent wind and sea. In other words, that the question would be one of expense rather than of difficulty of construction.

24. I now beg permission to bring forward the following plan for the improvement of the present system of lights and beacons at the port:—

25. In latitude 18°44′48″ north and longitude 72°41′10″ east, there is a place on the accompanying chart, denoted by a lighthouse standing at 8 fathoms water, and situated to windward of the fair-way to the harbour, with the following bearings and distances:—

Kenery Island, centre	S. 67½° E.	7′ 15″ miles.
Thull Shoal, south end	N. 70° E.	7′ 10″ miles.
Outer Floating Light-Vessel	N. 45° 50′ E.	7′ miles.
Colaba Lighthouse	N. 36° 30′ E.	11′ miles.
South-West Prong	N. 36° E.	8′ 10″ miles.

26. Here, upon a foundation of wrought-iron screw piles, I would erect a lighthouse, to be called the Bombay Direction Lighthouse, similar to that shown on the accompanying sketch, No. 277,† exhibiting a revolving bright light of the first class, elevated 100 feet above high-water mark, and flashing round the horizon every 20 seconds. The lighthouse to be painted in alternate black and white bands, in the manner of the Eddystone, in the English Channel.

† Estimate of which is also attached.

27. From what has been already stated in reference to the necessity for having a fixed guide off the mouth of the harbour, to which the seaman could run, without incurring risk, the advantage of a lighthouse in this position will be apparent; an additional advantage being, that, due south of it for 10 miles, there is found the same or nearly the same depth of water.

28. Thus a shipmaster making for the port during bad weather, and not certain of his position, would so shape his course as to come on the meridian of the Direction Light at some 10 or 15 miles south of the light. He would then, if with hazy weather, shorten sail, and steer due north for

the light, being careful not to lessen the soundings to 7 fathoms at low-water, nor to increase them to 11 fathoms at high-water, when, having a good look-out, with common care he could not well fail to find it.

29. Arrived off the lighthouse, his position is known, and, therefore, regardless of time or weather, night or day, the vessel's head is put north-easterly—sail is made, and in an hour or two, the vessel is at an anchor within the harbour.

30. With the direction light ready for use, the next step would be to shift the outer floating light-vessel 3½ miles nearer to the harbour, to a position denoted by the following bearings and distances:—

From the Direction Lighthouse.	N. 49° 50′ E.	10′ 25″ miles.
Pitch of the S. W. Prong.....	N. 88° 30′ E.	3′ 12″ miles.
Colaba Lighthouse	S. 35° E.	2′ 35″ miles.
Sunken Rock	S. 7° E.	1′ 50″ miles.
Dolphin Rock Lighthouse	S. 3′ 10″ miles.	
Nearest part of the S. E. Prong.	1′ 03″ miles.	
Caranja Shoal	1′ 18″ miles.	
Thull Shoal.....	1′ 55″ miles.	

Here, in comparatively smooth water, the outer floating light, now to be termed the Fair-way Light, would be exhibited until it might be convenient to erect in its place a lighthouse on piles, to be termed the Fair-way Lighthouse, and similar in principle to the Direction Lighthouse, but exhibiting a fixed bright light of the second class.

31. I may here mention, that this principle of lighthouse construction was first employed for the foundation of the Maplin Lighthouse, on the north side of the mouth of the Thames. This was commenced in 1838, and is stated to be as firm now as when first erected.

32. Since the construction of the Maplin, many other lighthouses have been built upon screw pile foundations, particularly on the United States coast, and, as far as experience goes, they answer all the purposes required of them, particularly as regards stability, owing to the small amount of surface presented to the impact of heavy seas.

33. The cost of the proposed Direction Lighthouse, looking at the importance of the harbour of Bombay, is small indeed contrasted with the much larger sums expended upon several situated upon our home coasts, and upon the

coast of France, as, for instance, the Bishop Rock Lighthouse off Scilly, 145 feet high, which cost £36,560; the Bell Rock, on the east coast of Scotland, £61,332; the Skerryboe Rock, on the west coast of Scotland, £83,127; and on the north-west coast of France, the Phare de Brehat, at a cost of £38,800. Be it remembered, also, that the sum is not more than about one-fifth of the value of one such ship as the 'James Pilkington,' recently lost north of the port.

34. The cost of the lighthouse for the fair-way, not required to be more than 80 feet high, and having but a second-class light, would of course be considerably less than that of the Direction Lighthouse; but although it is proposed for a time to place the outer light-vessel in the position of the fair-way lighthouse, the fact should not be lost sight of, that the latter would in every way prove the most efficient for the required purpose, and, therefore, that its construction should not be unduly deferred.

35. I do not make this statement with the intention of underrating the importance of this useful class of vessel for the performance of the duties usually assigned to it. There are 47 light-vessels stationed around the coasts of the United Kingdom, several of which are moored in very exposed positions—as that at the Seven Stones, near Scilly, moored in 40 fathoms water; the sattees off Coningbeg Rock in 32 fathoms, and the Arklow in 22 fathoms; but it is manifest that a light-vessel, owing to its floating character, cannot possess the amount of stability found in a fixed lighthouse, so necessary where it is desirable to employ light apparatus of a superior class.

36. The estimation in which light-vessels are held at home will appear from the following extract from the report of the Royal Commission, March 1861, when referring to the importance of the light-vessel remaining at its station in all weathers:—'The best proof that the lights are efficient in the last particular is to be found in the statements of the lighthouse authorities, which are fully confirmed by the evidence of mariners. The light-vessels very seldem go adrift, and there is no instance on record in which the crew have voluntarily run from their stations in bad weather. When they have been driven from their moorings, the vessels have always been replaced in a very short time, and none have ever been wrecked.' The mariners' evidence on this point

is valuable, because the rare instances in which light-vessels have been off their stations are repeatedly mentioned by independent witnesses as remarkable events. It does not appear that the lights have ever been extinguished.

37. The advantages to be derived from the Fair-way light, in addition to its comparatively sheltered position, and immunity from the turbulent sea which forms so marked a feature of the station at present occupied by the outer light-vessel, are as follows:—

(*a.*) A ship steering from the Direction towards the Fair-way Light would be led midway between the S. W. Prong and the Thull Shoal, and having arrived at, and rounding the latter light on the port hand, would be brought equi-distantly between the S. E. Prong and the Caranja Shoal, from which, steered N. by E. ½ E. to N.N.E., or with the Dolphin Rock light a point and a half on the port bow, she would run until such time as the latter light, in altering from bright to red, gave intimation to anchor for a pilot.

(*b.*) The light, in transit from Colaba Point, falls upon the meridian of the Direction Light at a place 9 miles north of the parallel of the pitch of the S. W. Prong, and as a ship is rendered safe by running down upon this meridian from the time the Direction Light becomes visible, she would continue to steer for it until the Fair-way Light was brought to bear east a little northerly, upon which bearing it would be observed to change from bright to red, denoting the pitch of the S. W. Prong; but having been again brought to resume its bright colour, it would in turn be steered for, and thus safely and expeditiously lead the vessel across the Prongs into the Harbour Fair-way, from where, as in the case of the vessel coming from the Direction Light, she would steer the same course until anchored for a pilot.

(*c.*) The Sunken Rock Shoal danger is effectually avoided by the light changing to red in a line with the Dolphin Rock Lighthouse; the latter light, also, as will be presently described, would show a red light on this line. Thus a vessel steering from the Fair-way Light towards the anchorage, happening by any mistake to diverge towards the Sunken Rock, would be effec-

tually warned of her danger by both lights changing from bright to red, the danger colour of the harbour.

38. The Dolphin Rock Light is so feeble at present as scarcely to be visible from the inner light-vessel, owing to the very great absorption of the rays of light by the green coloured medium employed to distinguish it from seaward.

39. The adoption of this colour, under the circumstances of the Bombay Harbour, has been a mistake, for the reason that such is employed only where a red light is already in operation in its vicinity; and as, by the employment of the latter colour for harbour purposes, 4-7ths of the power of the whole light become sacrificed, it will be readily perceived that the employment of a green medium, possessing a higher absorbent power, would render such a light as the Dolphin effective only for a very short distance.

40. As this error admits of an easy remedy, I would suggest that red shades be substituted for the present green ones, but so disposed as to show red from south of the line of the Fair-way Light round by west to 300°, and that in the remaining 60° from south to nearly S.E. by E. ½ E., there be shown a bright light, which would advantageously serve two purposes, namely—first, of notifying the Sunken Rock and Shoal, by changing to red, intimating that the vessel was steering too much to port; and secondly, changing in the same manner on the other bearing, as an intimation to the vessel running up, without a pilot, to anchor. The Fair-way Lighthouse, when completed, would show, as already stated, a red light on the meridian of the Dolphin also, thus protecting the vessel in both ways from the Sunken Rock Shoal. With a light-vessel, this, for manifest reasons, would be impossible.

41. The Direction and Fair-way Lights having been established and brought into use, the Colaba Light would be extinguished, and the inner light-vessel removed, neither being longer required. The Fair-way Lighthouse erected, the light-vessel which had occupied the fair-way station would also be removed.

42. The proposed system of lights thus completed, would be composed of three lighthouses, namely, the Direction Lighthouse, exhibiting a revolving light of the first class, flashing round the horizon every 20 seconds, and elevated 100 feet above high-water mark; the Fair-way Lighthouse,

exhibiting a fixed bright light of the second class, visible round the horizon, but displaying a red ray in the direction of the Dolphin Lighthouse to the north, and of the S. W. Prong on the east, and elevated 80 feet above high-water mark; and, lastly, the Dolphin Rock Lighthouse, exhibiting a red and bright harbour light, elevated 20 feet above high-water mark.

43. The cost of the whole, when completed, including the minor changes recommended for the Dolphin Rock Lighthouse, would probably fall short of £32,000; but it should be borne in mind that the annual expense of lighting and establishments would fall far short of that of the present system.

44. The cost of maintenance of a light-ship much exceeds that of a lighthouse. On the home coasts, it is on an average as £1,320 is to £400; and although I am of opinion that this ratio is not fully maintained here, yet it is such as to form a sufficiently strong argument in favour of the lighthouse.

45. I would humbly submit, however, under the circumstances pointed out, that the question here is not one of expense, but of efficiency: cost what it may to establish an effective system of lights at the port, if it prove but instrumental in preserving one ship from destruction, or add but ever so little to the protection of human life, the sum is not too great.

Buoys.

46. Beacon buoys, especially those of modern construction, form by day a very valuable accessory for rendering safe the navigation of harbours and rivers, over which dangerous reefs and shoals are known to be scattered.

47. The estimation in which this description of beacon is held at home may be understood from the fact that in Great Britain and Ireland, in 1861, there were about 1100 buoys in position, excluding wreck, warping, and many others of minor importance. Out of this number, only 53 broke adrift in 1858, and of these a very large proportion were under local authorities. In the portion of the Thames between London and the open sea, there are nearly 70 buoys, in addition to the light-ships, harbour-lights, fixed lights, and beacons; while in the Mersey, the local authority connected with the

port has established 65 such buoys in addition to 7 light-houses, 3 floating lights, and 10 beacons.

48. Bombay harbour, from the sea to the anchorage, possesses one danger buoy, namely that off the Sunken Rock; while upon the Thull Shoal, the extensive reefs forming the Prongs, and the reefs which line the eastern shore of the harbour, there is no beacon of any description whatever.

49. That the dangers enumerated should be efficiently beaconed, in order to lessen the risk to ships beating in or out of the harbour, cannot, I presume, be doubted. I would, therefore, suggest that 12 first-class iron buoys (Herbert's), complete with moorings, be ordered from England, 10 of which should be placed in the following positions, as also denoted upon the chart accompanying. Buoys coloured red and black, to denote dangers on the west and east sides of the harbour respectively.

	Red Buoys.
East (true) of the Sunken Rock, distant ½ mile..	1
S. 22½° E. of the Colaba Lighthouse, distant 1′ 60″ miles ..	1
S. 10° W. of the Colaba Lighthouse, distant 1′ 90″ miles	1
S. 39° W. of the Colaba Lighthouse, distant 2′ 70″ miles—the buoy to have an iron staff surmounted by a red ball, to denote the pitch of the S. W. Prong	1
	Black Buoys.
East (true) of the Dolphin Lighthouse, distant 2′ 40″ miles	1
S. 87° E. of the Colaba Lighthouse, distant 3′ 50″ miles	1
S. 62½° E. of the Colaba lighthouse, distant 3 miles	1

THULL SHOAL.

First-class buoys, coloured black, to be placed, one at the centre of the western edge, and at the north and south extremities. The present fair-way buoy would be removed when the above system had been established.

50. In 1855, the Herbert iron buoy, having been found to answer its purpose so very admirably, was adopted by the Trinity House Corporation with marked success. The following account of this buoy is extracted from a scientific

work:—'An excellent method of confining a floating body to the ground beneath was observed in several water plants, and particularly in the lotus and the gorgeous Victoria Regia. It was for Mr. George Herbert to perceive from these that the cable or confining apparatus should not, as before, be attached to the lowest point of the substance immersed, but should, as nearly as practicable, be made to hinge on to a point in the line of floatation. Mr. Herbert appears to have succeeded in the forming of iron buoys of admirable qualifications, as proved to the satisfaction of the Trinity Board. His mode of construction gives the following advantages, namely, the tendency to pitch and roll is greatly reduced, the weight of the mooring chain is suspended from near the centre of gravity of the mass, and this, together with the resistance of the body of water filling the conical hollow of the bottom of the buoy, imparts great stability to the whole, as all leverage acting upon the centre of gravity is avoided. Thus the body will be always borne upon the top of a wave rather than *dragged through* it, its shape offering little resistance to the waters, and, therefore, the tide has very little power to force it from its floating perpendicular. They have been adopted by the Trinity House accordingly.'

51. In conclusion, I would respectfully state, that as the subject of these remarks has for several years received my serious attention, they are not now brought forward hastily, or without due consideration.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) D. J. KENNELLY,
Acting Master I. N.

Bombay, 5th August 1862.

PROPOSED BOMBAY DIRECTION SCREW PILE LIGHTHOUSE.

To D. J. KENNELLY, Esq.

SIR,—I have now the pleasure of enclosing a tracing (No. 277) of the above lighthouse, and subjoined estimate for same, and hope that it will be favourably received. The lighthouse would be of the first class. You will perceive

that the sum is about that named to you by Mr. Wells.—I remain, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICK JOHNSON.

Estimate

For a first-class lighthouse, with a first order dioptric holophotal light, to give flashes every 20 seconds, and to be erected in a depth of 64 feet at high-water, and from high-water mark to the focal plane of light to be 100 feet.

Foundation of lighthouse to be composed of seven 8-inch diameter solid forged wrought-iron piles, fitted with Mitchell's patent screws, combining an improvement lately patented to facilitate their penetrating the ground. These piles, which are vertical, will extend 15 feet above high-water mark, and on top of same will be placed wrought-iron girders, to form support for platform, dwelling-house, and tube; above the platform, on the 8-inch piles, 7-inch diameter solid forged wrought-iron piles, and 6-inch diameter solid wrought-iron piles will be fixed; cast-iron caps will be placed on top of 6-inch piles, arranged to receive wrought-iron girders for support of light-room and lantern. The entire structure will be braced and tied throughout horizontally and diagonally, as shown on drawing. The dwelling-house will be constructed of two thicknesses of galvanized iron, with space between each; the tube protecting the spiral stairs to be made of galvanized wrought-iron plate ⅜-inch thick.

The dioptric holophotal light will consist of 8 upper catadioptric panels of 18 prisms each, 7 lower catadioptric panels of 8 prisms each, 8 annular lenses, the whole mounted in gun-metal frame-work. Rotatory machinery and armature, consisting of machine on Scottish system, with square cast-iron pedestal, and smaller additional casing and side motion, arranged to suit the tower; the clockwork to make a revolution in 160 seconds, complete, with cast-iron service table, gun-metal frame-work, iron lamp-stand, and copper ventilator and tube. Three *pression lamps* on the best principle, with their burners, and spare burners, and accessories for their repair and service. A complete set of appurtenances for service of light and lantern, being chimneys, wicks, tools, materials, &c. A lantern on English principle, having wrought-iron inclined uprights, with gun-metal covering,

gun-metal astragals, double copper roofs, glazing of ⅜-inch plate glass, with 2 spare panes of each size, cast-iron service gallery, wrought-iron rafters, upper cowl and wind-vane, sun-blinds, cast-iron steps, lightning conductor, storm-panes, and every other usual accessory part complete.

Interior diameter 12 feet.

Height of glazing 10 feet.

Height of focal plane above light-room floor about 11 feet 6 inches.

Light-room of cast-iron segments, lined with mahogany, with ventilators, door opening on balcony, outer iron gallery at top level, wrought-iron balustrade, and every accessory complete. Height 7 feet.

Interior diameter 12 *feet.*

The time that would be occupied in the erection of this work would be about 12 months from date of screwing first pile.

The whole to be constructed of the very best materials, and as shown on the drawing (No. 277), for the sum of eighteen thousand, seven hundred and ninety-three pounds, five shillings, and seven-pence (£18,793-5-7).

The above sum does not include duty upon materials, store-room for materials, or use of steamer during time of erection.

(Signed) FREDERICK JOHNSON.

(True copy)

(Signed) Dr J. KENNELLY,
Acting Master I. N.

No. 109 OF 1862.

To Major W. L. MEREWETHER,
Acting Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your memorandum No. 741, dated 30th ultimo, enclosing copy of

a letter from Mr. Kennelly, on the subject of lighting the harbour.

As the Committee understand that the Commission asked for by them to inquire into the whole question of pilotage, lighting, &c. will shortly be appointed, they think that the three propositions of Captain Barker, Mr. Kennelly, and Mr. Oliver, might be advantageously taken into consideration by them; and they therefore refrain at present from offering any remarks on the subject.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 9th September 1862.

APPENDIX E.

MAIL ARRANGEMENTS.

No. 1886 of 1861.

To H. Brooke, Esq.,

Secretary Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Sir,—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter, No. 204, of 14th December, I have the honor to request that you will have the goodness to convey my thanks to the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce for forwarding their last year's Report for my acceptance.

2. I may state, for the information of the Chamber, that it is confidently anticipated there will be, before the conclusion of next monsoon, a gap of 500 miles only between the terminus of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway at the Taptee river, and the East India Railway at Agra, which, with travelling railway post offices, and especial trains at both sides for Overland Mails exclusively, would ensure the latter at least being delivered with certainty on the sixth day at Calcutta, estimating the time as follows:—

24 hours to the Taptee,
72 do. do. Agra.
48 do. do. Calcutta; or at most 12 hours additional.

3. I would observe, that it appears to me, that in discussing the subject of the time occupied to, and the regularity of arrival of the mails at, the Presidency towns of Madras

and Calcutta, by land, it has been entirely overlooked that the Director General of the Post Office of India undertook to provide for the weekly transmission of the mails across India, and for improved mail arrangements, *only upon the condition of increased expenditure*, which latter he considered would be very much below the "sum saved by the discontinuance of the steamers to Calcutta and Madras"; and there is no doubt whatever that under such conditions the desired expedition and regularity could be attained; but without some such aid, and a corresponding decrease of expenditure in some direction, the Post Office would not be justified in incurring the heavy outlay that would be imposed on it thereby.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

Bombay Post Master General's Office, 31*st December* 1861.

No. 486 OF 1862.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—In transmitting to you the accompanying copies of papers, I am directed to request that you will favor Government with the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce on the subject:—

Government letter to the Post Master General, Bombay, No. 1503, dated 21st October 1861.

Memorandum by ditto, No. 1471, dated 21st October 1861, with accompaniments.

Memorandum from the Government of India No. 795, dated 11th February 1862, with accompaniments.

Memorandum to the Post Master General, No. 345, dated 27th February 1862.

Letter from ditto, No. 407, dated 27th February 1862.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21*st March* 1862.

No. 1503 OF 1861.

To the POST MASTER GENERAL, Bombay.

SIR,—Under instructions from the Government of India, this Government have resolved, that when the day for closing the English Mails falls on a Sunday, the mail steamer shall be detained till Monday.

2. Agreeably to this Resolution, as the next regular mail day falls on Sunday, the Superintendent of the Peninsular and Oriental Company has been requested to detain the departure of the steamer *Jeddo*, advertised to carry the Mails, till 8 P. M. of Monday the 28th instant.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21st October 1861.

The humble Memorial of the Master and Members of the CALCUTTA TRADES ASSOCIATION *to His Excellency the* VICEROY *and* GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL, *dated the 26th September* 1861.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That at recurring periods, the closing of the outward overland mail happens on Sunday; that consequently, your memorialists have either to trespass on the observance of the Sabbath, and summon thereon the attendance of their European and Native establishments to expedite the necessary correspondence, or to waive the opportunity of such day, which to the trading interest, whose extensive business transactions render every hour of consequence, would be a material deprivation.

Your memorialists would draw your lordship's attention to the precedent established in England, where, when the coincidence of Sunday and mail day happens, the closing of the mail is postponed till the following evening. There are no superior claims or urgent circumstances attaching to the correspondence of the British public which should secure this privilege to them exclusively: your memorialists believe that the advantage arises from the recognition by the Home authorities of great objections to Sunday mail days, which reasons form similarly the grounds on which your memorialists now solicit a like exemption.

Your memorialists would respectfully assure your lordship that there would be scarcely a dissentient voice from the general approval of such alteration; the change would be esteemed a sterling improvement, and be generally welcomed —which your memorialists would urge as a strong argument in favor of the measure.

In conclusion, your memorialists earnestly pray that your Lordship in Council will be pleased to take into consideration the advantage of adopting the same course with regard to the closing of the mails in India in the cases above referred to as is now observed in England.

No. 1816.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

From W. GREY, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

To F. JENNINGS, Esq.,
Master of the Calcutta Trades Association.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your memorial dated the 26th instant, praying that when the day for closing the English mail falls on a Sunday, it may be postponed to the following day, in conformity with the practice which prevails in England.

2. As the mail steamers almost invariably leave Calcutta early in the morning on the 9th and the 23rd, and the mails are consequently closed on the previous evening, the practical request preferred in your memorial is, that whenever the 9th or the 23rd falls on a Monday, the departure of the steamer may be postponed till Tuesday the 10th or the 24th; so that Monday, instead of Sunday, may be the day on which the mail closes.

3. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that the Governor-General in Council considers the request preferred in the memorial to be quite reasonable. He will address the Secretary of State on the subject, and will recommend that Her Majesty's Post Master General may be asked to make the necessary arrangements with the Peninsular and Oriental Company for giving general effect to the measure. In the mean time, on any occasion on which the date fixed for the departure of the mail steamer may

fall on a Monday, a special order will be given by this Government for the detention of the steamer for 24 hours. —I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, the 30th September 1861.

No. 1817.

HOME DEPT.—Post Office.

From W. GREY, Esq.,
Secretary to the Government of India,

To Dr. G. PATTON,
Director General of the Post Office of India.

SIR,—I am directed to forward for your information the accompanying copy of a memorial, and the orders passed thereon, from the Calcutta Trades Association, praying that when the day for closing the English mail falls on a Sunday, it may be postponed to the following day, in conformity with the practice which prevails in England.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) W. GREY,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, the 30th September 1861.

No. 1592.

Copy forwarded to the Post Master General of Bombay, for information and guidance.

(Signed) G. PATTON,
Director General of the Post Office of India.

Calcutta, the 5th October 1861.

133532

Message to the Director General of the Post Office in India, dated the 18th October 1861.

The 27th of this month falls on Sunday; please obtain sanction of Government for the detention of the steamer until Monday evening, the usual hour of starting 8 P. M.

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General, Bombay.

No. 579 OF 1861.

To G. PATTON, Esq.,
Director General of the Post Office in India.

SIR,—With reference to your docket No. 1592, dated the 5th instant, I have the honor to inform you that the 27th of this month, the day fixed for the departure of the overland steamer from Bombay, is the only one in the year that falls on Sunday, and in accordance with the existing orders from Her Majesty's Government, the mails would have been closed and sent on Saturday evening, and the steamer started at daylight on Sunday morning; but, agreeably to the recent orders of the Government of India, received with the above docket, I have requested you by telegram to obtain the sanction of the Government of India for the detention of the steamer of the 27th of this month (which will convey the next overland mail), until Monday evening.

2. As far as the Bombay Post Office is concerned, it will not be necessary in similar cases to postpone the departure of the overland steamers until Tuesday morning, as they start immediately after the mails are put on board, at 8 o'clock in the evening.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

Bombay Post Master General's Office, 19th October 1861.

No. 1471 OF 1861.

True copies forwarded to the Secretary to Government, General Department, for information, and for orders in the

event of the sanction of the Government of India not being received in time.

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

Bombay Post Master General's Office, 21st October 1861.

No. 407 OF 1862.

From E. IMPEY, Esq.,
Post Master General, Bombay,
To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government,
General Department, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to dockets Nos. 792 and 795, dated 11th instant, from the Supreme Government, and to your letter No. 1503, of 21st October, I solicit instructions whether the orders conveyed in the lastnamed letter are to be cancelled or not.

2. The correspondence with Her Majesty's Post Master General refers exclusively to the petition from Calcutta, and the grounds for the rejection of it are that compliance would interfere with the regularity of the entire homeward mail service, in consequence of the Calcutta packet forming a junction with those from outstations and China at Point de Galle.

3. As no such junction occurs to the Bombay Mails, it seems to me the same arguments do not apply, and that an express decision is necessary in respect to Bombay.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

Bombay Post Master General's Camp, Dhar, 27th Feb. 1862.

(True copies)

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Extract Paragraphs 1 *to* 4 *of a Letter, No.* 1049, *dated the* 27*th of November last, from Mr.* HILL, *of the London Post Office, to the Under-Secretary of State for India.*

Para. 1. I have laid before the Post Master General your letter of the 15th instant, enclosing the copy of a despatch from the Government of India, covering a memorial from the Calcutta Trades Association, praying that the closing of the mail for England should, as a rule, be postponed until the following day, whenever the regular day for closing the mail at Calcutta falls on a Sunday; and I have also laid before His Lordship Mr. Bourdillon's further letter of the 22nd instant, enclosing copies of letters from the Secretary to the Landholders and Commercial Association, and from the Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, on the same subject.

2. In reply, I am directed to state to you, for the information of Sir Charles Wood, that His Lordship regrets that he cannot favorably entertain these applications.

3. The packet from Calcutta forms a junction at Point de Galle with the packets from China and Australia; and, consequently, any departure from the fixed days of sailing from Calcutta would interfere with the regularity of the entire homeward mail service, and would cause a serious delay to the important mails from China and Australia; a point which was probably lost sight of by the memorialists in making the present applications.

4. Allusion is made in the memorial from the Calcutta Trades Association to the fact that a regulation, similar to that desired, already exists in respect to the despatch of foreign and colonial mails from this country; but the Post Master General desires me to state to Sir Charles Wood that the regulation referred to applies only to London, and that packet mails are made up at Liverpool, Southampton, and other ports on the Sunday, as on other days, whenever the date of departure happens to fall on a Sunday.

(True extract)

(Signed) A. M. MONTEATH,
Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 792.

HOME DEPT.—Post Office.

From A. M. MONTEATH, Esq.,
Under-Secretary to the Government of India,

To F. JENNINGS, Esq.,
Master of the Calcutta Trades Association.

SIR,—Referring to the correspondence noted on the margin, relating to the closing of English mails on Sunday, I am directed to transit for your information the accompanying extract paragraphs 1 to 4 of a letter dated the 27th of November last, from Mr. Hill, of the London Post Office, to the Under-Secretary of State for India, from which you will perceive that Her Majesty's Post Master General cannot comply with the application of the Calcutta Trades Association.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

Memorial of the Calcutta Trades Association, dated 26th September 1861.
Letter to the Master of the Calcutta Trades Association, No. 1816, dated 30th ditto.

(Signed) A. M. MONTEATH,
Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, the 11th February 1862.

No. 795.

COPY of the foregoing letter, and of the extract from Mr. Hill's letter therein referred to, forwarded to the Secretary to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, to the Secretary to the Landholders and Commercial Association, and to the Government of Bombay, with reference to the correspondence noted on the margin, and to the Director General of the Post Office, in continuation of the communication from this Office, No. 1817, dated the 30th of September last.

To Government of Bombay, No. 22, dated 3rd January 1862.
From do., No. 72, dated 15th idem.

(Signed) A. M. MONTEATH,
Under-Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 345 OF 1862.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Forwarded to the Post Master General, with reference to his communication No. 1471, dated the 21st October 1861.—
By order, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 27th February 1862.

No. 671 OF 1862.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Acting Chief Secretary Robertson's letter No. 486, dated the 21st ultimo, I am directed to request that the Chamber will be so good as to favor Government with their opinion as early as possible relative to the detention of the English mails till Monday when the day of closing falls on Sunday.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21st April 1862.

No. 39 OF 1862.

To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government,
General Department, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to call your attention to the circumstance that the date of departure of the next overland mail, after having been advertised for Monday next, has been suddenly altered this morning to Saturday next. This sudden curtailment of the time originally fixed upon will be extremely inconvenient to the mercantile community of Bombay, and to those resident in the mofussil it may be productive of considerable loss, as doubtless a large propor-

tion of the letters intended for the mail will reach Bombay too late for despatch.

This appears to the Committee of the Chamber so important a consideration, that they would respectfully urge upon Government the necessity of at once reverting to the originally advertised date of departure.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 24th April 1862.

No. 686 OF 1862.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—In answer to your letter No. 39, of to-day's date, I beg to point out that the departure of the English mail is advertised for Sunday next, and not Saturday, as stated by you.

2. I take this opportunity of reminding you, that the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce was requested, more than a month since, on the instructions from the Home Government of India, for despatching the mail on Sunday, but has not yet been submitted.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24th April 1862.

No. 43 OF 1862.

To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government,
General Department, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letters Nos. 486, 671, and 686, upon the subject of closing the mails on Monday, instead of Saturday, when the appointed day of departure of the steamer falls on Sunday.

It appears to the Committee, that Monday would be the most convenient day, as, in the event of the arrival of the inward mail, there would be more time afforded to reply to the letters; but the Committee regards as of much more importance, that the originally advertised date of departure should be adhered to, unless events of great importance should necessitate the alteration. When an earlier date is substituted, there is great risk of many important mofussil letters, written expressly for the mail, being too late; and in the event of a postponement of the mail, accidents to shipping affecting insurances are reported unexpectedly, and much loss may be occasioned to those whose intended insurances thus become vitiated.

When new arrangements may be made in the overland mail service, it appears to the Committee that the public convenience would be consulted by the date of departure being governed by the days of the week rather than by those of the month, as almost all the meetings of public companies or corporate bodies are thus governed, and the constantly varying dates of departure of the mails necessitate either irregularity in attendance or postponement till the departure of the mail.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 3rd May 1862.

APPENDIX F.

DEFENCELESS STATE OF BOMBAY.

No. 5 of 1862.

To A. D. Robertson, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to hand you, enclosed, the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India, on the defenceless state of Bombay.

The Committee trusts that, in forwarding the memorial, His Excellency the Governor in Council will support the prayer of the Chamber.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. Brooke,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 21st January 1862.

No. 7 of 1862.

To the Chief Secretary to the
Government of India, Calcutta.

Sir,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to transmit to you copy of a memorial from the Chamber of Commerce to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India, on the defenceless state of Bombay.

The Committee trusts that His Excellency the Governor General in Council will support the prayer of the Chamber. —I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 21st January 1862.

To the Honorable Sir CHARLES WOOD, *Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India.*

THE RESPECTFUL MEMORIAL OF THE *Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

SHEWETH,—That whilst Bombay is the greatest port of Western India, already possessing an aggregate annual commerce of about forty million pounds sterling, it is at present absolutely in a defenceless state, and liable to destruction by the ships of any enemy.

2. That this commerce is carried on by means of shipping, whose annual aggregate capacity amounts to about 770,000 tons; but although the harbour of Bombay is the only one of Western India in which ships can refit, they are exposed in it to the attacks of any privateer, and liable to be burnt, sunk, or plundered, by any armed vessel under a hostile flag.

3. That your memorialists, whilst hopefully trusting in the maintenance of peace, would earnestly condemn the apathetic confidence that may expose them to the consequences of war.

4. That such a misfortune as the bombardment of Bombay, recognised by the community, and admitted by Government to be possible in the event of war, would be at once a national disgrace, and a national calamity, paralysing the important commerce of Western India, and seriously affecting the industry of Great Britain.

5. That with these important interests at stake, it is essential that the safety of the port be immediately secured, and that no considerations of false economy should prevent the adoption of necessary precautions, more especially as the Presidency has never been unwilling to meet the fair calls for revenue made upon it by Government, and cannot therefore contemplate without dissatisfaction and alarm its unnecessary exposure to foreign attack.

6. That the sanction of the Imperial Government has been given to the construction of permanent harbour defences, and their necessity has thereby been practically admitted; but from the parsimonious expenditure granted for the prosecution of these works, that sanction has virtually become a dead letter, and the port cannot, for years, derive any security from them, but must continue at the mercy of any power with whom our country may be at war.

7. That this danger may be obviated by granting the assistance of a small naval force, which, whilst affording the necessary protection to Bombay, would, at the same time, guarantee the safety of the neighbouring seas, and preserve from obstruction our important overland communication with England.

1. That whilst your memorialists, therefore, would respectfully press for the vigorous prosecution of the harbour defences, they would, at the same time, strenuously urge the necessity of according, for the present protection of Bombay, such a naval force as may be deemed sufficient for that purpose.

And your Memorialists shall ever pray.

(Signed) JAMES N. FLEMING,
Chairman.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 21st January 1862.

No. 336.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

From Lieut. Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT,
Secretary to Government,

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce dated 21st January 1862, on the defenceless state of the port of Bombay, and in reply to inform the Chamber that the memorial has been forwarded to H. M.'s Principal Secretary of State for India,

and recommended by His Excellency the Governor in Council for the favorable consideration of H. M.'s Government.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) W. F. MARRIOTT, Lieut. Col.,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 1st February 1862.

No. 825.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 21st ultimo, forwarding copy of a memorial of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India, on the defenceless state of Bombay, I am desired to acquaint you, for the information of the Chamber, that the subject of the defences of the harbour of Bombay, and of the measures to be adopted in the matter, are now under the consideration of the Government of India.

The question of the naval defence of India has also been brought under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) H. W. NORMAN, Lieut. Col.,
Secretary to the Government of India.

Fort William, the 26th February 1862.

APPENDIX G.

IMPORT DUTIES.

No. 72 OF 1862.

From C. J. DAVIES, Esq.,
Acting Deputy Commissioner of Customs, P. D.,
To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to our conversation the other day, I enclose copy of an official telegram just received from Calcutta, regarding the alterations in import duties.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) C. J. DAVIES,
Acting Deputy Commissioner of Customs, P. D.
Bombay Custom House, 26th April 1862.

Immediate.

Copy of a Telegram from the Home Secretary, Calcutta, to the Chief Secretary, Bombay, dated 24th April 1862.

A new Custom Duty Bill was passed into (law) yesterday as Act No. Eleven; the alterations are as follows: Imports—paper, music, and bottles added to free list, and conveyances and carriages removed from the same; duty on porter, ale, beer, cider, and other similar fermented liquors, reduced to two annas the imperial gallon; duty on light wines, of

value not exceeding twelve rupees per dozen, reduced from two rupees to one rupee the imperial gallon; duty on piece goods fixed at five per cent., on twist at three and a half per cent., and on tobacco, whether manufactured or unmanufactured, at twenty per cent. *ad valorem*. Exports—silk, chassum, coals, and iron added to free list, and teak timber declared free without restrictions as to place of export. New duties come into force from date of passing Act.

(True copy)

(Signed) C. J. DAVIES,
Acting Deputy Commissioner of Customs, P. D.

No. 78 OF 1862.

From C. J. DAVIES, Esq.,
Acting Deputy Comr. of Customs, S., and O., P. D.,
To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—In continuation of my letter No. 72, of the 26th instant, I send copy of a telegram just received from Calcutta. "Cotton, silk, and mixed piece goods of all kinds come in at five per cent. All linens and woollens at ten per cent., all papers not stationery free."—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) C. J. DAVIES,
Acting Deputy Comr. of Customs, S., and O.; P. D.
Bombay Custom House, 30th April 1862.

No. 96 OF 1862.

From C. J. DAVIES, Esq.,
Acting Deputy Comr. of Customs, S., & O., P. D.,
To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—In continuation of my letters Nos. 72 and 78, dated the 26th and 30th ultimo, respectively, I have the honor to to forward, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce,

copy of a telegram just received from Calcutta. As there has been some difference of opinion on the subject, I beg to draw your attention to the restriction of the term "piece goods" to articles "usually manufactured *in pieces or lengths.*" —I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) C. J DAVIES,
Acting Deputy Comr. of Customs, S., and O., P. D.

Bombay Custom House, 13th May 1862.

Copy of a Telegram from Calcutta.

The term as used in Act Eleven of Eighteen hundred and sixty-two includes piece goods of cotton, silk, woollen, linen, and mixed fabrics of other goods, usually manufactured in pieces or lengths.

(True copy)
(Signed) C. J. DAVIES,
Acting Deputy Comr. of Customs, S., and O., P. D.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—We beg to call the attention of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to the difficulty in some instances of fixing the rate of duty to be paid on wines under the recent alteration of customs duties; and in illustration of this difficulty we shall state the particulars of a case which has just occurred to ourselves.

We imported some hhds. of sherry, which we can sell at a price equal to Rs. 9 per dozen exclusive of duty. Adding duty at the reduced rate of Rs. 1 per gallen, or Rs. 2 per dozen, we returned the market value at Rs. 11 per dozen. To this valuation the Customs Authorities object, saying that they value the wine at Rs. 13 per dozen, and that we must therefore pay duty at the rate of Rs. 2 per gallon or Rs. 4 per dozen. The difference is thus not a difference of the value of the wine at all, but a higher nominal price put upon the wine that it may be taken off again as duty. The difficulty would be at once removed if the Customs would

buy the wine at our valuation, but they claim that from our price of Rs. 11 they should deduct the higher rate of duty, namely Rs. 4, leaving only Rs. 7 as the price of the wine. No objection is taken on account of the sort of wine, or the strength, but merely to the quality; and on referring to Mr. Davies, he says that it is altogether in the hands of the appraiser.

We submit that it is not a good plan which leaves it to the appraiser to decide by his opinion of quality whether wine shall pay at the rate Rs. 1 or Rs. 2 per gallon—a difference which in the present case is equal to 20 per cent. on the value.—We are, &c.,

(Signed) NASMYTH, MACDONALD, & Co.

Bombay, 2nd May 1862.

No. 732 OF 1862.

From E. L. JENKINS, Esq.,
Acting Commissioner of Customs,

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—In forwarding for your inspection the accompanying letter No. 732, dated the 30th ultimo, and invoice, which has been received from Messrs. Wallace & Co. with samples (4 bottles) of wines therein alluded to, I have the honor to request that you will favor me as soon as possible with the opinion of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce as to whether the said wines are such as should be subject to the lower rate of one rupee per gallon.

2. It is requested that the accompaniment may be returned.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) E. L. JENKINS,
Acting Commissioner of Customs.

Bombay Custom House, 2nd June 1862.

No. 68 of 1862.

To E. L. Jenkins, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs.

Sir,—With reference to your letter No. 732 of 1862, dated the 2nd instant, and its accompaniments, the Committee of the Chamber are of opinion that the champagne and hock in question should be subject to the higher rate of duty.

The term "light wines" is so indefinite, that the Committee are of opinion tariff value alone, and not denomination, will have to be considered in levying duty on wines under Act No. XI. of 1862.

The greater portion of the sherry imported into India is not worth more than Rs. 12 per doz. wholesale, and it does seem hard that wine of this description, which is in large consumption, should pay the same rate of duty as the finer classes of sherry, retailed in small quantities at more than double the price.

The same remark applies with equal force to Rhine, French, and Portugal wines.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. Brooke,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 7th June 1862.

No 105 of 1862.

To A. D. Robertson, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to draw your attention to the anomalies still existing in the working of the Customs Act.

Although the reduction of duty on piece goods from 10 per cent. to 5 per cent. took place in April last, it appears still extremely doubtful where the line should be drawn separating "piece goods" from haberdashery, millinery, &c.; and in some instances it would seem that articles of a certain description, if of low quality, are admitted as piece goods at 5 per cent., which, if of better quality, are charged

10 per cent. The effect of this uncertainty is, that it becomes necessary to obtain a definite opinion, not only upon each separate article, but upon the varying qualities of such article; and it not unfrequently happens, that while one importer is paying 5 per cent., another is charged 10 per cent. These discrepancies arise chiefly in the articles of scarfs, lappets, and figured muslins, the former of which are invariably admitted at 5 per cent. in Calcutta; and as the loss to the revenue would be inconsiderable if the higher rate were rescinded, the Committee of the Chamber would respectfully suggest that the 10 per cent. be retained only on shawls and scarfs of a value exceeding Rs. 10 each; millinery might be defined as articles of wearing apparel, wholly or in part made up.

The discriminating duty on prices is another source of dispute and annoyance to importers.

It was probably intended by the Legislature that the term "light wines" should apply to all wines of a less value than Rs. 12, without reference to name or description; and the Committee would further respectfully suggest, that the Act should be so interpreted by the Customs Authorities, as this would simplify matters, and greatly facilitate business at the Custom House. Much of what is invoiced as port and sherry imported into Bombay is of a less value than Rs. 12, and a duty of Rs. 2 per gallon on these is almost prohibitory.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 4th September 1862.

No. 2999 OF 1862.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed to forward copies of the Report of the Select Committee on the Consolidated Customs Bill, and of the Bill as amended by them, and to request that you will favor His Excellency the Governor in Council with the opinion of the Chamber on the subject thereof as early as

possible, a reply having been asked for by the Government of India within two months.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 5th August 1862.

No. 108 OF 1862.

To J. B. PEILE, Esq.,
Under-Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, No. 2999 of 1862, dated 5th ultimo, accompanied by copies of the Report of the Select Committee on the Consolidated Customs Bill, and requesting the opinion of the Chamber on the subject thereof.

The Committee are of opinion that the Bill, as it now stands, is a great improvement on the one formerly submitted to them.

The numerous alterations made by the Calcutta Committee appear to be in most cases extremely judicious, especially in clauses xx. xxiii. civ. & cxxvi. and ccviii.

There are only a few instances in which it appears to the Committee that alterations are called for:—

47, 110.—Sections 47 and 110. As a rule, fifteen days would be too short a time in Bombay for either landing an import cargo or shipment of an export cargo. The Committee would therefore respectfully suggest that the minimum should in clause 47 be twenty-five working days, and in clause 110, thirty working days.

51.—In this clause, penalty falls upon the owner or importer. It might so happen that the Customs' officer omitted to give a boat-note to the boatman. It would therefore be well, instead of making confiscation imperative, to give the Collector of Customs power to investigate the matter—by inserting after "*such goods shall,*" the words "unless good cause be shown," &c.

58.—Two months is too short a time; in some cases a reference might have to be made to England. Three months would be sufficient for Bombay; but the substitution of "four" months for "two" months would suit all Indian ports.

94.—In cases where there is a dispute with the purchaser, or where the owner or consignee may not happen to be on the spot, sale in ten days by Customs would be a hardship. The Committee would therefore suggest the insertion, after the word "presentation," of the clause "unless for good cause shown," &c.

207.—The Committee are of opinion that *bonâ fide* stores and provisions might, at the discretion of the officer in charge of the Custom House, be transhipped from one vessel to another without payment of import duty, whether such vessels do or do not belong to the same owners.

This would often greatly facilitate business where troop-ships are concerned, as it frequently happens that a ship not taken up has for disposal the articles most wanted by the ships selected, and were this clause altered, there would often be greater despatch given to troop-ships, and expense of keep of troops on shore thereby saved to Government.

There is one other point to which the Committee would advert. Clause 24 provides for the valuation of goods in bond; and as the rule for unvalued goods in clause 171 seems to clash with the former, they think that clause 171 might with advantage be omitted.

With these alterations, the Committee are of opinion that the Bill will work well; always provided that Government are careful in the selection of their Collector of Customs, who should be a man who will at once act to the best of his own judgment, and who will accept responsibility rather than retard business by reference to the Supreme Government. Appraisers are also officials who should be selected with great care, they having much in their power for good or evil.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 8th September 1862.

APPENDIX H.

STAMP ACT.

No. 197. OF 1861.

To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Chief Secretary to Government,
Financial Department, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to call your attention to the draft of a Bill further to amend Act XXXVI. of 1860 (Stamp Duties Act), and which was read a second time on the 7th September last, and referred to a Select Committee, who are to report after the 21st instant.

Act XXXVI. of 1860 having been in operation for sufficient time to test practically its effect, the Chamber would respectfully suggest that the report of the Select Committee might be advantageously delayed for a month, in order to afford time to the Chamber to express an opinion upon such clauses of the former bill as appear to require modification.

The Act in question is found most cumbrous and inconvenient in its working, and from this cause, as well as from the ambiguity of several of its clauses, it has doubtless in many cases been unintentionally evaded. It would therefore appear very desirable that the present opportunity should be availed of to subject the Act to a searching examination and

revision; and if time be allowed, the Chamber will have great pleasure in submitting what appear to them desirable alterations.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 10th Dec. 1861.

No. 5317 OF 1861.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,

Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 197, dated the 10th instant, and in reply to inform you, that the proposal it contains has been recommended for the favorable consideration of the Government of India.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 12th December 1861.

No. 698 OF 1862.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,

Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Acting Chief Secretary Robertson's letter of the 12th December last, No. 5317, I am directed to forward, herewith, the accompanying printed communication (No. 844, dated 7th February 1862) from the Secretary to the Government of India, and of its enclosures, and to request that the Chamber will have the goodness to favor Government with any suggestions they may have to offer on the "Bill to Consolidate and Amend the Law relating to Stamp Duties."

2. As the reply to this communication must reach Calcutta early next month, I am to request that your answer

may be submitted in time to enable Government to comply with this requisition.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21st February 1862.

No. 707 OF 1862.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—In submitting your report on the "Bill to Consolidate and Amend the Law relating to Stamp Duties," forwarded to you on the 21st instant, I am directed to request that the Chamber will take into consideration the Schedules of the present Stamp Act, which appear to require amendment in form as well as in substance, and that the Chamber will suggest any alterations which their experience of the working of the Act may suggest.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 26th February 1862.

No. 25 OF 1862.

To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of letters No. 698, dated 21st February 1862, and No. 797, dated 26th February 1862, forwarding Draft Bill for the Consolidation of the Stamp Duties, and requesting the Chamber to suggest such alterations and amendments as they may deem desirable.

When the Act now in operation came before them for their opinion, they considered that in the then alarming

state of the public finances, they would best promote the public interest by giving their support to any measure that would, without pressing with extreme severity on any particular class, possess the merit of yielding a large revenue; but while doing so on public grounds, they did not overlook the great objection to such a Bill if brought into permanent action as a means of raising a considerable portion of the revenue.

The equilibrium between the revenue and expenditure having at length been nearly, if not quite, attained, the Chamber has no longer any hesitation in stating their opinion that the present Bill, and the amended one now submitted for their consideration, are both unsuited to the limited state of civilisation and intelligence as yet prevailing even in the Presidency towns of India.

The great defect of the amended Bill (which appears in this respect no improvement on the former) is its extreme cumbrousness, resulting almost in unintelligibility. The Committee, after careful study, find extreme difficulty in mastering the exact meaning of many of its provisions; and from their apparently contradictory nature, merchants and traders would continue in a constant state of doubt as to whether they were complying with the Act or not. The necessary consequence would be, that it would first be generally evaded, and gradually fall into disuetude. If the Committee, who are accustomed to such matters, and acquainted with the exact meaning of English words, experience this difficulty, what will be the conclusions of the Native portion of the community when the Bill is presented to them, confused and disfigured by imperfect translations into the numerous Native languages?

The next great objection to the Bill is the extremely high rate of many of the stamps: for instance "conveyances," upon which a minimum tax of one per cent. is levied; and this is rendered still more onerous by the circumstance that every certified copy, or extract even, is liable to a repetition of the whole tax paid on the original document. Thus, should five persons be interested in a property proposed to be conveyed to five other persons, and, as usual, each person require a copy, the aggregate payment to Government would be no less than ten per cent. of the purchase-money—a tax, it needless to say, which is quite unheard

of in any civilised country, and which would be sufficient to engender the most widespread and deserved disaffection.

The Committee are of opinion that a Stamp Act for this country should be so simple in its provisions as to be readily intelligible to the people at large, and so light in its incidence as to provoke but little if any effort for its evasion.

With these views, the Chamber believes, that if all mercantile documents, of any kind whatever, were subjected to a stamp of one anna, it would become the practice to transact business on the stamped paper only, and from the universality of their use, the revenue derived from such stamp in India, where a single export transaction is made up of an infinity of petty preliminary bargains, would exceed that derived from the proposed cumbrous, unintelligible, and oppressive Act. The revenue derived from the penny postage in England, the Committee believes, affords a guarantee that their views in the present case are not without a substantial basis. The extremely small expense of collecting such a tax would likewise be a strong argument in its favor.

The Committee have therefore to suggest that Schedule A, as far as regards mercantile transactions, should be rescinded, and the proposed amendment adopted.

As regards Schedule B, all such documents as come under the classification of legal acts, such as bonds, leases, conveyances, deeds, &c. should be subjected to a rate of stamp as nearly as possible to one-eighth per cent.

The Committee would not object to such documents as charter parties, bills of lading, policies of insurance of all kinds, protests, and even foreign bills of exchange, being subjected to special taxation, as they are well known instruments in common use, and cannot be dispensed with: evasion therefore is a risk of little importance.

As regards stamps on legal proceedings, the Committee do not consider themselves competent, or called upon, to offer any suggestions, further than that they should be so modified as to be simple in character and readily understood.

In the event of the proposition of the Chamber not being adopted, I am directed to respectfully request that ample time may be afforded to the Chamber to submit the measure to the scrutiny of its members at large. It is highly desir-

able that an Act of this nature should be as perfect as possible before it comes into operation, in order that it may not require frequent amendment; and the Committee therefore believe that it would be politic to continue the existing Act in force until time can be afforded for the proposed measure to receive the fullest consideration and approval.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 4th March 1862.

APPENDIX I.

FAIRS.

MHYJEE FAIR.

No. 3098 OF 1862.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you the accompanying copy of the Report of the Annual Fair held at Mhyjee, between the 15th January and 15th March last, and to request that the Chamber of Commerce will be so good as to favor Government with any remarks on the fair which may occur to them.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) M. J. SHAW STEWART,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 30th August 1862.

No. — OF 1862.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Judicial Department, dated 24th August 1862.

Read the following:—

Letter from Mr. B. H. Ellis, Revenue and Police Commissioner, Northern Division, No. 1096, dated 12th July 1862.

I have the honor to submit, in original, a report from the Collector of Khandeish, Mr. Ashburner, with accompaniment from Lieutenant Daniell, detailing the results of the annual fair held at Mhijee beween the 15th January and 15th March last.

No. 1491, dated 7th July 1862, with accompaniments.

2. The fair was under the superintendence of Lieutenant Daniell, who was doing duty with the Khandeish Police. Very satisfactory arrangements were made for the protection of property, and Lieutenant Daniell's general management of the fair does him great credit. His report is interesting, and I would suggest that it be placed at the disposal of the press.

3. Lieutenant Daniell's observations on the locality of the proposed railway station are concurred in by Mr. Ashburner, and I recommend that they be referred for the early consideration of the Railway Committee.

Paragraph 14 of Lieutenant Daniell's Report. Paragraph 8 of Collector's Report.

4. Regarding the disposal of Rupees (3,281) three thousand two hundred and eighty-one of surplus funds, I have to remark that all local wants should be provided for before the Collector's proposal for improving the Gowtala Ghaut is carried out. A larger expenditure than usual will have to be incurred this year upon the bridge over the Girna, and a dhurumsala at Mhijee is yet incomplete. When these and other similar works have been provided for, the balance ought, I think, to be expended on the road from the railway station. An early decision on Lieutenant Daniell's proposition for a change in the station is therefore very desirable, in order that the Collector may know on which of the two roads the funds should be expended.

Letter from Mr. L. R. ASHBURNER, *Collector and Magistrate of Khandeish, No.* 1491, *dated 7th July* 1862, *to the Revenue Commissioner N. D.*

I have the honour to enclose a very satisfactory report on the late Mhijee Fair, by Lieutenant Daniell, lately employed in Khandeish on special duty.

2. The combined military and police force at the disposal of the Superintendent for the preservation of order, as per margin, seems to have been most judiciously disposed. There were sixteen cases of theft of property, valued in the aggregate at Rupees 200-2-6, but the thief was in each case apprehended, and the property recovered, a fact very creditable to the police.

150 Men 3rd Regiment N. I.
100 „ Khandeish Bheel Corps.
28 „ 1st Regt. Poona Horse.
31 Police Peons.
135 Bheel Chowkeydars.

3. The fair commenced on January 15th, and was closed on 15th March, the business transacted during this period amounting to Rupees 45,87,240, a sum exceeding that of last year by nearly 14 lakhs, and exceeding the average of the last twenty years by rather more than 11½ lakhs. By far the largest item of this increase appears to have been owing to the transactions in piece goods, the sale of which exceeded that of last year by Rupees 5,83,221; the increase of the cotton trade, including the gunny-bags in which it was packed, amounted to Rupees 2,61,306-9-8. Grain of all sorts, valued at Rupees 40,235, changed hands during the fair, being an increase of Rs. 10,731 on last year; but Lieutenant Daniell explains that this increase is due more to the advanced price of grain than to any actual increase of grain in the market.

4. The following is a statement of the average price *per Rupee* of the chief articles of food in Khandeish, for the past six months:—

STATEMENT

Months.	Ghee.			Bajree.			Jowaree.			Rice.			Toor Dall.			Wheat.			Wheat Flour.		
	m.	s.	t.	m.	s.	t.	m.	s.	t.	m.	s.	t.	m.	s.	t.	m.	s.	t.	m.	s.	t.
November 1861	0	1	40	0	28	0	0	36	0	0	11	0	0	16	0	0	20	40	0	14	0
December 1861	0	1	40	0	22	0	0	29	0	0	11	0	0	14	0	0	19	0	0	13	0
January 1862	0	1	30	0	22	0	0	26	0	0	12	0	0	14	0	0	18	0	0	13	0
February 1862	0	1	40	0	23	0	0	28	0	0	10	0	0	14	0	0	18	40	0	13	0
March 1862	0	1	35	0	22	0	0	25	0	0	11	0	0	14	0	0	18	0	0	13	0
April 1862	0	1	40	0	28	0	0	36	0	0	11	0	0	16	0	0	20	40	0	14	0
Total	0	8	65	3	25	0	4	20	0	1	26	0	2	8	0	2	36	40	2	0	0
Average for six months	0	1	37	0	24	0	0	30	0	0	11	0	0	14	0	0	19	0	0	13	0

5. These high prices are partly caused by the measures of His Highness the Nizam, who has prohibited all export of grain from his territory: nothing but the high rate of wages paid on the railway, and the consequent rise in the rate of wages in every other branch of industry, has enabled the poor to pay these high prices without much suffering.

6. The following is an abstract of the chief articles of trade in the fair:—

Groceries, Medicines, &c. ..... Rs.	6,78,267	8	0
Grains, &c	40,235	0	0
Eatables, &c.....	93,228	0	0
Miscellaneous property	7,103	0	0
Jewellers' Bazar.....	1,85,649	0	0
Cloth Bazar	16,29,980	0	0
Metal Bazar	1,63,685	8	0
Cotton and Gunny-bags	5,22,553	0	0
Copper Coins	3,820	0	0
Hoondee Bazar.....	13,44,419	0	0
Rupees	46,68,940	0	0

7. The monopoly of the cloth trade hitherto enjoyed by the Marwarees was this year for the first time invaded (apparently successfully) by an Agent for a European firm, Messrs. Nicol & Co., Bombay, to whose presence, probably, the large increase under the head of piece goods is owing.

8. Lieutenant Daniell suggests, that the proposed railway station for Mhijee, instead of being where the line crosses the Korungy and Nandra road, which is 3½ miles from the fair, should be at the place where the Chinchkeira road crosses the rail, which is only a mile and a half from Mhijee, and a better road than the longer one. Lieutenant Daniell further points out the necessity of a railway siding for 30 or 40 waggons at the station, wherever it may be situated, and hopes that the station will be ready by the next fair. These suggestions appear well worth the consideration of the railway authorities.

9. The temporary causeway over the bed of the Girna was erected as usual at a cost of Rupees 152-0-9, and was perfectly efficient, and an additional sum of Rupees 28-1-9 was expended in removing the causeway when the fair was

over. Many of the palm-trees are now reported decayed, and fresh ones will be required for next year.

10. The health of the people during the fair was good: the cholera did not make its appearance till the people had dispersed.

11. The Mhijee Fund, details of which are given in Lieutenant Daniell's report, shows a balance in hand of Rupees 3,281-5-2. I would suggest that sufficient amount of this be retained for the current expenses of next year's fair, and the balance expended in improving the Gowtala Ghaut. It is true that this ghaut is situated in the Nizam's territory, but it is the road by which the produce of a large number of our villages above the ghaut reaches a market, and it would benefit them quite as much as the Nizam's villages. It is probable that the Nizam would contribute half of the expenses of opening this important ghaut. It is almost impassable.

12. The Appendix A contains a statement of the various articles of merchandise that have passed through the fair this year, with the estimated value of each.

Letter from Lieutenant H. S. DANIELL, *Superintendent of the Mhijee Fair, No.* 9, *dated 2nd May* 1862, *to the Collector and Magistrate of Khandeish.*

I have the honor to submit the Report of the Mhijee Fair for 1862. I have been unable to send in this report before, owing to the delay caused by the Mamlutdar of Pachora in furnishing me with the Mahrattee returns. Even now, I am unable to recommend any disbursements from the proceeds of this year's fair, as I have not received the Mamlutdar's report stating how much money is required to complete the works sanctioned by Government last year. As I am under orders to leave Khandeish immediately, I am compelled to leave this matter for your consideration. In order to avoid, in future, this delay on the part of the Mamlutdar, I would venture to recommend that the services of the Naka Carkoons, who are employed during the Mhijee Fair, should be retained for a few days after the fair is closed, to help the Mamlutdar to compile the returns. At present, much extra work falls upon the Mamlutdar, and a delay of six weeks has this year been the consequence.

2. I received charge of the fair from Lieutenant Stanley Bell, Assistant Superintendent of Police, on the 21st February.

The fair had been in the first instance under the superintendence of Mr. A. A. C. Jervoise, late 3rd Assistant Collector, on whom devolved the duty of making the primary arrangements for the protection and security of the traders and others attending the fair.

3. The undermentioned force was placed at the disposal of the Superintendent, for the preservation of order in and about the fair:—

150	men	3rd Regiment N. I.
100	,,	Khandeish Bheel Corps.
28	,,	1st Regiment Poona Horse.
31	Police Peons.	
135	Bheel Chowkeydars.	

The detachments of the Native Infantry and Bheel Corps furnished guards and pickets in and about the fair.

The Poona Horse supplied two or three small parties posted in villages on the main roads leading to Mhijee, patrolled the fair and its vicinity at night, and visited the Bheel Chowkies.

The Police Peons were placed in the different streets of the fair, for the purpose of keeping order.

The Bheels were posted in chowkies two miles apart, along the various highroads leading to the fair.

4. This system of disposing of the force at the fair has now held good for several years, and the results have proved its value. It appears hardly possible for a criminal to escape if all the guards are on the alert and do their duty.

5. The fair commenced on the 15th of January, and closed on the 15th of March. A few merchants remained till the 20th or 25th March, but little or no business was done after the fair was officially closed.

6. For the first month, trade was very dull, but towards the middle of February it became more brisk, and latterly goods were bought up as fast as they arrived.

7. I am happy to be able to inform you that the amount of business transacted in this fair exceeds that of last year by nearly fourteen lakhs of rupees, and exceeds the average of the last ten years by upwards of eleven and a half lakhs. The following tables show the result of last year, and the

average of the last ten years, as compared with the year under report:—

Amount of business transacted in 1861	Rs.	31,89,326	0	0
In 1862		45,87,240	0	0
Difference	Rs.	13,97,914	0	0
Average amount of business transacted in years 1852-1861	Rs.	34,32,637	7	10
In 1862		45,87,240	0	0
Difference	Rs.	11,54,602	8	2
In piece goods, the amount of business done was, in 1861	Rs.	10,46,759	0	0
In 1862		16,29,980	0	0
Difference	Rs.	5,83,221	0	0

8. It may be useful in a statistical point of view to give the result of this year's cotton sales, as compared with the average of the last ten years. I therefore subjoin a statement.

Average amount of cotton sales in 1852-1861	Rs.	2,61,186	6	4
In 1862		5,22,553	0	0
Difference	Rs.	2,61,366	9	8

9. This statement includes the amount paid for the gunny-bags for packing the cotton. In consequence of the incomplete state of the records, I am unable to give the averages of cleaned cotton only.

10. The amount of business done in grain of all sorts amounted to Rupees 40,235.

11. Although this shows an excess of Rupees 10,731 over last year, yet, in consequence of the enormous rise in the price of this article, it represents no more grain than was sold last year. This I account for by the fact that in consequence of the high price of grain in the Deccan, His Highness the Nizam placed sowars and guards on all the ghauts leading into Khandeish, and would permit no grain to be exported from his territories.

12. The presence of the representative of a European firm from Bombay, and his determination to do business, in spite of attempted combinations of Marwarree and other traders against him, had a stimulating effect on the fair.

13. The large amount of money spent this year by the ryots on copper, brass, and iron, is abundant proof of their prosperity. I have been informed, that in addition to the amount of these articles sold at Mhijee, metal pots and utensils to the amount of half a lakh of rupees were this year purchased by the ryots at the fair at Sackly, in the Yawul Talooka.

14. It is, I believe, proposed to erect a station for the Mhijee Fair on the G. I. P. Railway at the crossing of the *Korungy* and *Nandra* track, about three and a half miles from the spot where the Mhijee fair is held. The road from this crossing into Mhijee is bad, and it would take a great deal of money to make one portion of it, where the ground is very rocky, fit for the amount of traffic that may be expected upon it during the Mhijee Fair.

15. The road from Chinchkeira (the village where the Mhijee Fair is held) to Saumkeira crosses the line about one mile and a half from Mhijee. The road from this crossing into Mhijee is good, and an annual expenditure of one hundred or one hundred and fifty rupees would keep it in good order, when it is taken into consideration that there would be little or no traffic upon it except during the Mhijee Fair.

16. It may not, however, be important at which of these places a railway station is erected, but it is essential that the station should be available for passengers and merchandise during next year's fair.

17. If it is not available by next year, goods from Bombay and the south will have to be brought ten miles along an execrable road from the Pachora station, and merchandise from the north and east an equal distance along an equally bad road from the Mussawed station.

18. I have also heard that the Railway Company simply propose to erect a roadside station and platform, with no siding for waggons containing merchandise.

19. If this be the case, I should imagine that the Railway Company cannot be aware of the vast amount of goods that are annually brought into the Mhijee Fair.

20. A siding for thirty or forty waggons would certainly

be necessary during the time that the fair lasts, and for a few days before its commencement and after its close.

21. It will be a great boon and encouragement to the traders attending the fair if the station can be open by the beginning of next January.

22. The temporary bridge across the Girna, which has annually been laid down at Mhijee for the last seven or eight years, proved as useful as ever. It was left down on the conclusion of the fair, and has only now been taken up in consequence of its falling into disrepair.

23. I have much pleasure in bringing to your notice the small amount of crime which occurred while the fair lasted.

There were only (16) sixteen thefts, and the total value of property stolen was Rupees 200-2-6.

In every case the culprit was caught and punished, and the property returned to its lawful owner.

24. No epidemic or sickness of any sort broke out in the fair.

25. Four or five small fires occurred, but they were immediately subdued, and on no occasion was any property of value destroyed.

26. The following table shows the gross receipts and disbursements of the fair:—

Balance of last year				Rs.	2,806	2 11
Opium sold by Government ..	Rs.	122	11	9		
Fines		64	0	0		
Sale of stalls of absent owners ..		986	14	0		
Stall tax at 3 annas per *hath* frontage		2,278	7	3		
Duty paid by vendors of poisonous substances		108	0	0		
Postage receipts		185	11	6		
„ Stamps		888	7	0		
Liquor Vendors' licenses		1,607	7	8		
Sale of guard-huts		0	6	0		
Fee from the man who was sealing weights		95	0	0		
					6,337	1 2
					9,143	4 1
Deduct—Sums not credited to the Mhijee Fair				Rs.	3,071	5 11

Deduct Disbursements:				Rs.	6,071	14 2
Pay of Chowkeydars ....Rs.	1,397	14	2			
Making guard-houses	26	0	9			
Laying down bridge in 1862 ..	180	2	6			
Removing bridge in 1861	28	1	9			
Pay of 5 Naka Carkoons for keeping returns of goods entering the fair.....	164	11	4			
Stationery	52	5	10			
Torchman	11	7	2			
Potdar (assayer).....	11	9	9			
Public crier	0	12	0			
Repairing the roads round Mhijee Fair	200	0	0			
Watering trees about the Fair..	48	12	6			
Building Dhurumsala for Travellers	575	0	0			
Hire for conveying money and stamps.....	4	6	0			
Batta to Mamlutdar's Carkoons employed in the Mhijee Fair.	85	5	0			
Huts built in 1861 for the Bheel Boys of the Burgaum school	5	0	3			
					2,790	9 0
Balance in hand ...Rs.					3,281	5 2

27. As stated in paragraph 1 of this report, I am unable to propose any disbursement from this sum, as I have not been informed how much will be required to finish the dhurumsala, build a guard-house, and carry out the other works sanctioned by Government last year.

28. The following is a table showing the amount of goods brought for sale, and the amount remaining unsold at the end of the fair:—

Goods brought for sale.....Rs.		46,68,940
Goods remaining unsold.....		81,700
Business done in the fair .....Rs.		45,87,240

Forty-five lakhs, eighty-seven thousand, two hundred and forty rupees.

29. Appendix A contains an alphabetical list of all the goods brought for sale. In Appendix B will be found a list of all goods remaining unsold at the termination of the fair.

30. In conclusion, I have great pleasure in informing you that I received every assistance from Lieutenant Hudson and the detachment of the 3rd Regiment N. I. under his command. The conduct of all ranks employed under me during the Mhijee Fair was excellent.

APPENDIX A.

List of Goods of all descriptions, with their Quantities and Values, as correctly as they could possibly be ascertained, at the Mhijee Fair, between the 13th January and 11th March 1862.

Camp Chopra, 2nd May 1862.

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.					
Drugs, Grocery, &c.	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
A								
Azmoda.—Sison amni	25	20	288	0	0			
Amsool.—Garcinia Gambogia	138	..	823	0	0			
Akulkura.—Anthimis Pyrethorum	3	..	70	0	0			
Al.—Morinda Citrifolia	615	..	6,215	0	0			
Awulkuttee.—Dried Myrabolams	..	..	....					
Ambehullud.—Turmeric coloured Zedoary	87	20	566	8	0			
Akroda.—Physalis flexuosa	..	20	12	0	0			
Abhruck.—Talc	12	20	131	0	0			
Ambarree.—Hibiscus Cannubinus	29	..	139	8	0			
Anjeer.—Figs..	22	20	314	0	0			
Avela Gundhuck.—A kind of Sulphur	..	..	.....					
Attee Vekh.—Root of a Jungle Tree	..	..	.....					
Askund.—Physalis flexuosa	20	..	40	0	0			
Auhalew.—Sativum	..	..	....					

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.					
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Aood.—Frankincense..	54	..	1,254	0	0			
Aindurjew.—A seed, Nerium Antidysentericum	2	20	34	0	0			
Assubgole.—A seed of the Fleaworth	12	..	36	0	0			
B								
Beemphool.—The Marking-nut Semi	539	30	890	0	0			
Balheerda.—Chebule Myrabolam	17	..	46	0	0			
Baphlee.—Gum Arabic	38	..	100	0	0			
Boond.—Coffee	17	..	336	0	0			
Bole.—Gum Myrrh	8	10	103	0	0			
Beroja.—A kind of Gum Resin	16	..	78	0	0			
Badam.—Almond	387	20	3,905	0	0			
Bureeshope.—Anise Seed	58	20	342	0	0			
Bhooeemoong.—Ground Nut..	585	..	1,610	0	0			
Bharunghee.—A sort of medicine	6	..	42	0	0			
C								
Chaha.—Tea	..	20	20	0	0			
Charolia.—Seed of the Chironjee Sapida	64	..	941	0	0			
Chundun.—Sandalwood	4	20	61	0	0			
Chupra Lak.—Sealing-wax	409	..	19,073	0	0			

D						
Dig.—Gum	374	20	2,526	0	0
Deekamalee.—Strong-smelling Resin, produce of Gardenia.	143	..	906	0	0
Duggurphool.—A medicinal exfoliation, from stones ..	19	20	129	0	0
Dalcheenee.—Cinnamon	156	20	2,819	0	0
Deodar.—A species of Pine wood	1	..	16	0	0
Dhunai.—Coriander Seed	1,078	20	4,483	0	0
F						
Futtackrai.—Fire Crackers	Box	1	20	0	0
G						
Gool.—Molasses	6,220	20	39,593	0	0
Goolee.—Indigo	446	..	24,463	0	0
Googool.—Bdellium	36	..	357	0	0
Gundha Berooja.—A kind of Gum Resin	1	..	20	0	0
Goolal.—Red Powder..	374	..	4,571	8	0
Gairoo.—Red Chalk	1,239	..	21,495	0	0
Gond.—Gum	17	20	87	0	0
Gundhuck.—Sulphur..	17	..	108	0	0
Gopeechundun.—A white earth found at Dwarka	65	20	227	0	0
Gorumbee.—Kernel of the Belawa Nut	2	..	32	0	0
H						
Hing.—Assafœtida	144	10	5,420	0	0

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.					
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Hurtal.—A yellow orpiment..	25	20	136	0	0			
Heerda.—The produce of a jungle tree, used in colouring..	96	..	182	0	0			
Hingool.—Vermilion	240	..	305	0	0			
Heermojee.—A sort of Red Ochre or earth..	184	..	503	0	0			
Heerabole.—Gum Myrrh	6	..	72	0	0			
Heerakussee.—Green Vitriol	120	20	650	8	0			
Hullud.—Turmeric	476	..	2,858	0	0			
J								
Joyputtree.—Nutmeg shell	1	..	50	0	0			
Joyful.—Nutmeg	3	20	190	0	0			
Jeera.—Cummin Seed	461	..	6,052	0	0			
Jowlee Hullud.—Sort of Turmeric	27	..	156	0	0			
Jestmud.—Liquorice	1	..	10	0	0			
Jowkhar.—Medicinal preparation	7	..	18	0	0			
K								
Khareek.—Dried Dates	2,583	..	19,225	0	0			
Khurreesakur.—Sugarcandy	245	20	4,906	0	0			
Khobra.—Cocoanut out of the shell..	3,682	..	40,331	0	0			
Khurree.—White earth for whitewash, &c...	15	..	46	0	0			

Khujoor.—Moist Dates	1,419	20	6,749	0	0
Kaisur.—Saffron	1	3½	3,500	0	0
Kowria.—Small Shell	214	..	696	0	0
Kath.—Hellebore	772	..	16,345	0	0
Kajoo.—Cashewnuts	95	..	491	0	0
Kootkee.—Hellebore	7	..	210	0	0
Kumburbund.—A sort of medicine	43	..	235	0	0
Kuppeela.—Styrax or Benzoin	8	..	86	0	0
Kuppoorcheenee.—Cubebs	12	20	144	0	0
Kapoor.—Camphor	16	..	1,41[illegible]	0	0
Koonkoo.—A red powder	90	..	1,286	0	0
Koossoomb.—Dried flowers used as a Dye	5,478	..	85,453	0	0
Koyful.—Kiliorum bark	38	20	156	0	0
Kuchola.—Preserved vegetables of some sort	3	..	15	0	0
Kismiss.—Raisins	25	20	236	0	0
Kostkoranjun.—Costus Arabicus	3	..	10	0	0
Kareechceeraeet.—Gentiana Cherayeta	6	20	73	0	0
Kustooree.—Musk .. .. Tolas	..	24	336	0	0
Keermaneewava.—Seed of the Dill kind	1	..	6	0	0
L					
Lowung.—Cloves	507	..	6,348	0	0
Lack.—Sealing-wax	362	..	5,846	0	0
Lodh.—A Dye	77	20	500	0	0
M					
Meerai.—Black Pepper	760	20	10,357	0	0

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.					
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Morechoot.—Blue Vitriol	13	..	318	0	0			
Myda Lukree.—A sort of Drug	15	10	87	0	0			
Munooka.—Dried Grapes	80	20	622	0	0			
Men.—Wax	8	..	204	0	0			
Mooltanee Mattee.—A kind of Earth	5	20	14	0	0			
Munseej.—Red Sulphuret of Arsenic	2	..	30	0	0			
Mahooful.—Flowers of a tree	1,219	..	1,890	0	0			
Machruss.—Country medicine	6	..	42	0	0			
N								
Nowsagur.—Sal Ammoniac	6	..	106	0	0			
Nagurmotee.—A jungle Root	1	..	10	0	0			
Nagkaisur.—Cassia Buds	137	20	1,192	0	0			
Narrul.—Cocoanut	Nos.	5,772	16,230	0	0			
P								
Paupurkhar.—Carbonate of Soda	802	20	3,028	0	0			
Peetulpan.—Brass in very thin sheets	4	..	235	0	0			
Pashanbhade.—A saline powder	22	..	60	0	0			
Pimplee.—Long Pepper	30	..	438	0	0			

Pimpla Mool.—The Root Pepper	74	20	1,225	0	0
Peevlee Matee.—Yellow Earth	38	20	200	8	0
Putung.—Sapanwood	73	..	405	0	0
Peestai.—The Pistachio nut	4	..	97	0	0
R					
Ramputtree.—False Mace	7	..	97	0	0
Ruktchundun.—Red Sandal	7	..	53	0	0
Ruskapoor.—Corrosive Sublimate	3	..	480	0	0
Ral.—Resin	139	..	1,502	8	0
S					
Saiudoor.—Red Lead	126	..	1,919	0	0
Shapa.—Anise Seed	21	..	78	0	0
Shahajeera.—A variety of seed	65	..	959	0	0
Saindeeloon.—Rock Salt	15	20	46	8	0
Soont.—Dry Ginger	312	20	3,463	0	0
Sujjeekhar.—A kind of Salt	795	20	3,963	0	0
Soorma.—Antimony	1	20	24	0	0
Sookail.—Dried Plantain	14	20	137	0	0
Suffade Mooslee.—Country Alkali	1	..	12	0	0
Singarai.—The fruit of an aquatic plant	616	20	3,293	0	0
Syndhav.—A kind of Salt	110	..	425	0	0
Sailug.—A medicinal substance	33	..	108	0	0
Sooparee.—Betel Nut	5,281	..	42,915	0	0
Swaghee.—Soda Byborus	17	20	317	0	0

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.			
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs. a. p.
Sunchul.—A kind of Salt	63	30	337	0	0	
Sootlee.—Twine	56	5	336	0	0	
Singturas.—A kind of stone	47	20	94	0	0	
Sooparee Full.—Flower of Betel Nut	1	20	12	0	0	
Sakur.—Sugar	3,299	..	44,511	0	0	
Sonamukee.—Senna Leaves	99	..	538	0	0	
Sallum Misree.—Salep	..	20	125	0	0	
Saboo.—Soap	11	20	118	0	0	
Sungjeera.—The fruit of an aquatic plant	148	..	972	0	0	
Sunn Tag.—Hemp	442	..	1,344	0	0	
T						
Toortee.—Alum	993	20	6,507	0	0	
Tumalputree.—Medicinal leaf	20	..	74	0	0	
Toop.—Ghee	6,548	20	1,69,759	0	0	
Tumbakhoo.—Tobacco	754	20	3,266	0	0	
V						
Vaila.—Cardamom Seeds	56	..	2,855	0	0	
Vavdeeng.—Seed of the Embe Liaribis	37	..	89	0	0	
Vaildora.—Cardamom	2	..	235	0	0	

Vaikhund.—Root of a jungle tree	18	20	174	0	0
Vava.—A seed of the Dill kind	13	..	38	0	0
Voykoombha.— A medicinal fruit	3	..	6	0	0
Total Grocer's, Druggist's, &c. Goods..	..	..			6,78,267 8 0
Grains, &c.					
Rice	..	..	4,821	0	0
Jowaree	..	..	2,803	0	0
Moong	..	..	183	0	0
Dallia	..	..	504	0	0
Teelee	..	..	1,083	0	0
Moormoorai	..	..	196	0	0
Mohoria	..	..	14	0	0
Salt	..	..	10;238	0	0
Meith	..	..	7	0	0
Wheat	..	..	4,959	0	0
Bajree	..	..	1,206	0	0
Tooree	..	..	4	0	0
Dal of Qoreed	..	..	36	0	0
Pea	..	..	20	0	0
Pohai	..	..	81	0	0
Bhuggur	..	..	131	0	0
Rajgheera	..	..	60	0	0
Gram	..	..	3,059	0	0
Ooreed	..	..	4,639	0	0
Dal of Tooree	..	..	1,905	0	0
Dal of Gram	..	..	146	0	0

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.					
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Kooleeth	..	..	44	0	0			
Ambaree	..	..	164	0	0			
Linseed	..	..	81	0	0			
Sal	..	..	21	0	0			
Flour of Wheat	..	..	3,699	8	0			
Flour of Jowaree	..	..	130	8	0			
Total of Grains, &c.	..	..				40,235	0	0
Metals.								
Brass	..	..	51,876	0	0			
Copper	..	..	69,663	0	0			
Kassa	..	..	3,871	0	0			
Bhuttoor	..	..	2,680	0	0			
Iron Suruttee	..	..	23,464	8	0			
Beea	..	..	173	0	0			
Nurvuree	..	..	755	0	0			
Votaree	..	..	150	0	0			
Khairee	..	..	450	0	0			
Tin	..	..	3,572	0	0			
Just	..	..	3,035	0	0			
Iron of accepeth	..	..	1,046	0	0			
Steel	..	..	2,950	0	0			
Total of Metal Bazar	..	..				1,63,685	8	0

Miscellaneous.

Silk	12,150	0	0
Dufree	28	0	0
Printed Books	1,440	0	0
Papers	350	0	0
Jingar's work	105	0	0
Painter	467	0	0
Tumbolee	1,034	0	0
Leather	618	0	0
Wood	2,266	0	0
Kurbee	1,095	0	0
Firewood	110	0	0
Boorood work	104	0	0
Gunny	77	0	0
Dhape or Oil-cake	79	0	0
Khar	2	0	0
Liquor Contractor	1,605	0	0
Bangles	938	0	0
Gold Lace	450	0	0
Munuhar work	47,553	0	0
Snuff	9,860	0	0
Tin work	55	0	0
Turner	12	0	0
Carpenter	20	0	0
Vegetables	768	0	0
Boodhlas	83	0	0
Bamboos	1,122	0	0

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.					
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Cowdung cake	..	..	35	8	0			
A kind of Gold Lace	..	..	600	0	0			
Tultees	..	..	34	8	0			
Tapes, small	..	..	100	0	0			
Ganjea	..	..	723	0	0			
Curd and Milk	..	..	118	8	0			
Cheelums	..	..	31	0	0			
Boosum	..	..	1	0	0			
Sweetmeat	..	..	321	0	0			
Oil, smelling	..	..	235	0	0			
Ink	..	..	10	0	0			
Putva work	..	..	45	0	0			
Tailor work	..	..	1,258	0	0			
Ironsmith	..	..	100	0	0			
Shoes	..	..	316	0	0			
Seeds, Cotton	..	..	1,544	0	0			
Grass	..	..	419	8	0			
Charcoal	..	..	63	0	0			
Tapes	..	..	602	0	0			
Carts	..	..	3,185	0	0			
Oil	..	..	759	8	0			
Mats	..	..	26	8	0			

Butcher	70 0 0		
Ropes	189 0 0		
Total of Eatables, &c..		93,228	0 0
Cattle, &c.			
Bullocks	6,554 0 0		
Horse	7 0 0		
Cows	76 0 0		
Goats	175 0 0		
Buffaloes	64 0 0		
Male Buffaloes	227 0 0		
Total of Miscellaneous Property..		7,103	0 0
Jewellery.			
Pearls	45,100 0 0		
Coral Beads	4,107 0 0		
Gold	82,625 0 0		
Gold ornaments	10,000 0 0		
Silver	39,817 0 0		
Silver ornaments	4,000 0 0		
Total of Jewellers' Bazar..		1,85,649	0 0
Cloths, &c.			
1 Cloth made in Khandeish, consisting of all articles forming the apparel of male and female Natives	1,46,077 0 0		
2 Cloths made at Yeola	8,07,050 0 0		

Description of Goods.	Quantity.		Value.					
	Mds.	Seers.	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Cloths made at Ahmednuggur	..	..	8,000	0	0			
Ditto at Sholapoor	..	..	21,835	0	0			
Ditto at Boorhanpoor	..	..	50,570	0	0			
Ditto at Surat	..	..	43,855	0	0			
Ditto at Nagpoor	..	..	8,51,838	0	0			
Ditto in Europe	..	..	3,54,925	0	0			
Thread	..	..	44,700	0	0			
Koonchias and Caps for Children	..	..	1,130	0	0			
Total of Cloths of all kinds..	..	..				16,29,980	0	0
Cotton.								
Cotton, cleaned	..	..	4,86,613	0	0			
Bardans or Bags for holding Cotton	..	..	35,940	0	0			
Total of Raw Cotton..	..	..				5,22,553	0	0
Copper Coins	..	..	..			3,820	0	0
Banking Business	..	..	..			13,44,419	0	0

Abstract of the foregoing.

Groceries, Medicines, &c.....Rs.	6,78,267	8	0
Grains, &c.....	40,235	0	0
Eatables, &c.....	93,228	0	0
Miscellaneous property	7,103	0	0
Jewellers' Bazar	1,35,649	0	0
Cloth Bazar	16,29,980	0	0
Metal Bazar.....	1,63,685	8	0
Cotton and Gunny-bags.....	5,22,553	0	0
Copper Coins	3,820	0	0
Hoondie Bazar.....	13,44,419	0	0
Grand Total.....Rupees	46,68,940	0	0
Deduct amount of goods unsold, as per Appendix B.....Rs.	81,700	0	0
Leaving Total of business done in the Fair..Rs.	45,87,240	0	0

APPENDIX B.

List of Goods remaining Unsold at the termination of the Mhijee Fair.

Cotton Cloth of Yeola .....Rs.		13,000	0	0
Do.	of Nagpoor	17,000	0	0
Do.	of Boorhanpoor	12,500	0	0
Do.	of Europe	37,200	0	0
Do.	of Ahmedabad	2,000	0	0
Total....Rupees		81,700	0	0

SAMLAJEE FAIR.

No. 67 OF 1862.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From M. J. SHAW STEWART, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to forward, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, copy of a letter, with accompaniment, from the Political Agent in the Mahee Kanta, dated the 19th ultimo, No. 103, reporting the particulars of the last fair held at Samlajee, in that province.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) M. J. SHAW STEWART,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 6th January 1862.

No. 778 OF 1861.—Cons. No. 103.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From Major C. R. WHITELOCK,
Political Agent in the Mahee Kanta,
To A. KINLOCH FORBES, Esq.,
Acting Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, the particulars of

the last Fair held at Samlajee, between the 13th and the 28th ultimo.

2. The value of the merchandise and property brought and sold at this fair, during last month, is almost double that of any previous year, it being estimated at Rupees 18,77,717, and Rs. 17,47,417 respectively; the annual average value for the ten preceding years of goods exposed for sale and disposed of at Samlajee being Rupees 8,77,354 and 7,25,645.

3. The following table exhibits the results of the two fairs preceding the interruption which occurred in consequence of the mutinies, and the three which have been held subsequently:—

Years.	Value of Goods exposed for sale.	Value of Goods sold.	Amount of Goods remaining unsold.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1855	10,26,855	8,07,755	2,19,100
1856	9,93,151	9,08,641	84,510
1859	7,95,700	7,02,700	93,000
1860	8,86,604	7,24,664	1,61,940
1861	18,77,717	17,47,417	1,30,300

4. The demand this year for European manufactured cloth was far greater than the supply, although the latter was largely in excess of that of previous years, as shown in the subjoined table:—

Years.	Value of European Piece Goods brought to the Fair.	Amount of sales effected.
	Rs.	Rs.
1855	15,000	12,000
1856	35,000	35,000
1859	40,000	36,000
1860	40,000	25,000
1861	1,00,000	1,00,000

5. Appendix A gives in detail the assortment of goods that were offered for sale at the last Samlajee Fair, but the following is a list of cloths brought and sold at it:—

	Brought.	Sold.
	Rs.	Rs.
European manufactured cloths, such as chintzes, muderpauts, jacconets, &c.	1,00,000	1,00,000
Silk from Ahmedabad	1,50,000	1,05,000
Cotton cloths from Ahmedabad, Broach, Kuppurwunj, Dholera, and other towns in Guzerat.	80,000	70,000
Silk and cloths from Khandeish	17,000	14,000
Cloths of all descriptions manufactured in Malwa, Meywar, Joypoor, &c.	1,89,000	1,80,000
Rupees..	5,36,000	4,69,000

6. From the numerous accounts which I have received of the recent fair, the results seem to have given general satisfaction, buyers and sellers from all parts being alike pleased with their transactions. The demand for British manufactured piece goods was so great, that many of the shopkeepers from the neighbouring towns sent for fresh supplies. There was a great inquiry for gold, which was sold in bars at the rate of between Rs. 17 and 18, but the quantity was very much below the requirement. The supply of opium was more than double that of the preceding year; but notwithstanding, last year's prices were maintained, and nearly the whole of it was disposed of. The demand for tobacco was not less brisk, but nearly the whole of the stock provided was either in a damaged state, or of an inferior quality.

7. It will be recollected that the Raja of Edur had entered into a speculation to provide shops for the convenience of merchants and traders attending the fair, receiving annually for this great accommodation the sum of Rs. 3 for each shop. The speculation having turned out well, the expenditure for erecting 300 shops being Rs. 6,750, and the rent already received amounting to Rs. 5,402, the Raja is inclined to accede to the expressed wishes of a large number of mer-

chants and others, by constructing additional buildings for their use.

8. At my request, the Raja of Edur attended the fair, and remained there until it was quite over; and nothing could have been more successful than his police arrangements. The fact of not a single robbery or theft having been reported to have occurred, either at the fair, or within a circle of twelve miles from Samlajee, during the sixteen days of its continuance, reflects, I conceive, the greatest credit upon the Raja, the Agency Dufturdar, and upon the whole of the troops employed in patrolling the roads, and in guarding the large amount of property collected together in the confined spot wherein the fair is held (surrounded with hills thickly covered with jungle), and interspersed among a mass of human beings computed at between 100,000 and 125,000 persons who were present on the days of the 17th, 18th, and 19th November.

The number of troops were as follows:—

80 Guzerat Irregular Horse.
240 Gaekwar's Contingent.
60 Raja's Horse.
250 Raja's Foot.

630 Total.

9. Gratifying, however, as the above announcement will doubtless be considered by the Government, the circumstance of only one party attending the last fair having been robbed (to the extent of about Rs. 100) within the Mahee Kanta limits affords most satisfactory evidence of the altered habits of its people; and when the facilities and opportunities that dense jungles, deep and intricate ravines, and a thin, rude populace hold out to the highwayman, and the safe asylum that he can at all times count upon receiving in the adjoining states of Rajpootana, are taken into consideration, the change that has been effected in this country within the course of a few years appears highly creditable to the present chiefs, who, having been reclaimed from pursuing the evil ways and lawless strife of their forefathers, have rendered most essential assistance to the Government in putting down crime, by the examples they have set their followers, and by the encouragement they have given them to clear the jungles and cultivate the lands of their villages.

10. I beg to state, that in obedience to the instructions contained in para. 5 of the Government letter, No. 1042, dated 12th March last, no regular troops were employed for the protection of the last fair; but at the same time, I would respectfully submit, that as Samlajee is situated close to the wildest parts of Meywar and Doongurpoor, where there is an extensive Bheel population under little or no control, and besides is in itself a wild and confined spot, where cavalry, in the event of a disturbance, would be much less efficient than infantry, I would suggest that the Political Agent should be allowed the services of one company of Native Infantry, as I am convinced that their presence at Samlajee would instil greater confidence; and I may state, that when I mentioned to the Raja of Edur, while on a visit here in September last, that there would be no regular Infantry employed at the approaching fair, he begged me to apply for some, as he conceived that property would be insecure without them.

11. Before concluding this letter, I beg to inform you that the Raja of Edur has been trying to establish an annual fair at Khair Brima (which is about thirteen miles north of Edur), and as its holding seems to be desired by the merchants of Meywar, Doongurpoor, and other places, I have given encouragement to the second fair, which is to be held at that place between the 7th and 22nd February next; and the results of it will be duly reported, when some idea may be formed whether the establishment of a second fair in the Mahee Kanta is required, and likely to conduce to the encouragement of trade in these parts.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) C. R. WHITELOCK,
Political Agent.

Mahee Kanta Agency Office, Sadra, 19th December 1861.

APPENDIX A.

Statement of Articles brought, sold, and remaining unsold, at the Sumlajee Fair, held between the 13th and 28th November 1861.

No.	Nature of Goods.	Total Maunds of Goods.	Value of Goods.			Goods sold.				Goods carried back.			
						Maunds.	Amount.			Maunds.	Amount.		
	From Guzerat.	Mds.	Rs.	a.	p.	Mds.	Rs.	a.	p.	Mds.	Rs.	a.	p.
1	Goor (coarse Sugar) ..	400	2,000	0	0	400	2,000	0	0	..	....		
2	Sugar	3,000	22,500	0	0	3,000	22,500	0	0	..	....		
3	Cocoanut (fresh)	..	3,000	0	0	..	3,000	0	0	..	....		
4	Dried Dates and Cocoanuts..	500	2,000	0	0	500	2,000	0	0	..	....		
5	Sugarcandy	150	1,800	0	0	150	1,800	0	0	..	....		
6	Dates	300	750	0	0	300	750	0	0	..	....		
7	Almonds	200	1,000	0	0	200	1,000	0	0	..	....		
8	Raisins	50	250	0	0	50	250	0	0	..	....		
9	Black Pepper, &c.. ..	1,000	8,000	0	0	1,000	8,000	0	0	..	....		
10	Ginger (dried)	300	2,250	0	0	300	2,250	0	0	..	....		
11	Saffron	1¼	1,750	0	0	1¼	1,750	0	0	..	....		
12	Red Lead	12	100	0	0	12	100	0	0	..	....		
13	Kunkoo	30	150	0	0	30	150	0	0	..	....		

No.	Nature of Goods.	Total Maunds of Goods.	Value of Goods.	Goods sold.		Goods carried back.	
				Maunds.	Amount.	Maunds.	Amount.
		Mds.	Rs. a. p.	Mds.	Rs. a. p.	Mds.	Rs. a. p.
14	Tobacco	7,000	8,750 0 0	4,000	5,000 0 0	3,000	3,750 0 0
15	Snuff	300	1,500 0 0	300	1,500 0 0	..	....
16	Soap	300	1,200 0 0	300	1,200 0 0	..	....
17	Confections	400	3,200 0 0	400	3,200 0 0	..	....
18	Bangles of glass and lakh ..	..	3,400 0 0	..	2,800 0 0	..	600 0 0
19	Flour, Doll and Rice ..	22,000	27,924 0 0	22,000	27,924 0 0	..	....
20	Ghee	2,000	24,000 0 0	2,000	24,000 0 0	..	....
21	Oil	200	1,000 0 0	200	1,000 0 0	..	....
22	Grain	6,000	6,000 0 0	6,000	6,000 0 0	..	....
23	Gold	..	10,000 0 0	..	10,000 0 0	..	....
24	Silver	..	4,000 0 0	..	4,000 0 0	..	....
25	Metal Articles	1,200	36,000 0 0	1,000	30,000 0 0	200	6,000 0 0
26	Iron Ware	5,000	25,000 0 0	4,500	22,500 0 0	500	2,500 0 0
27	Iron (Sicca and Roopasaee) ..	200	800 0 0	200	800 0 0	..	....
28	Tin and Pewter	1,000	5,000 0 0	1,000	5,000 0 0	..	....
29	Brass Ornaments	..	1,200 0 0	..	1,000 0 0	..	200 0 0
30	Salt	900	700 0 0	900	700 0 0	..	....
31	Horse furniture	..	2,700 0 0	..	2,600 0 0	..	100 0 0

32	Articles made of wood ..	..	..	1,500	0	0	..	1,500	0	0	..	....
33	Articles of various sorts ..	..	..	5,000	0	0	..	4,000	0	0	..	1,000 0 0
34	Silk of various sorts ..	..	..	2,000	0	0	..	1,500	0	0	..	500 0 0
35	Leather Articles	..	..	1,000	0	0	..	1,000	0	0	..	....
36	Pearls real	..	..	15,000	0	0	..	8,000	0	0	..	7,000 0 0
37	Ditto false	..	..	500	0	0	..	400	0	0	..	100 0 0
38	Paper	..	..	6,000	0	0	..	5,500	0	0	..	500 0 0
39	Copper Coins	..	..	40,000	0	0	..	35,000	0	0	..	5,000 0 0
40	Silk from Ahmedabad ..	..	..	1,50,000	0	0	..	1,05,000	0	0	..	45,000 0 0
41	Cotton cloths from do. Broach, Kupperwunj, Dholera, and other Towns in Guzerat ..	..	..	80,000	0	0	..	70,000	0	0	..	10,000 0 0
42	British Chintzes and other Piece Goods	..	..	1,00,000	0	0	..	1,00,000	0	0	..	....
43	Caps and Coats	..	..	800	0	0	..	700	0	0	..	100 0 0
44	Thread	30	600	0	0	30	600	0	0	..	....	
45	Cloth for the use of women (Saree)	..	500	0	0	..	500	0	0	..	....	
46	Glass and China ware ..	..	1,000	0	0	..	1,000	0	0	..	....	
47	Utter of Roses	..	300	0	0	..	250	0	0	..	50 0 0	
48	Betelnut	100	700	0	0	100	700	0	0	..	....	
		..	6,12,824	0	0	..	5,30,424	0	0	..	82,400 0 0	
1	Opium	3,100	9,30,000	0	0	3,000	9,00,000	0	0	100	30,000 0 0	
2	Copper and Brass vessels ..	50	2,000	0	0	45	1,800	0	0	5	200 0 0	
3	Bangles of wax	..	1,000	0	0	..	800	0	0	..	200 0 0	
4	Sealing-wax	100	500	0	0	100	500	0	0	..	....	

No.	Nature of Goods.	Total Maunds of Goods.	Value of Goods.	Goods sold.		Goods carried back.	
				Maunds.	Amount.	Maunds.	Amount.
		Mds.	Rs. a. p.	Mds.	Rs. a. p.	Mds.	Rs. a. p.
5	Wax, Bees'	150	3,750 0 0	150	3,750 0 0	..	....
6	Honey	300	3,000 0 0	300	3,000 0 0	..	....
7	Gum Arabic	1,500	7,500 0 0	1,500	7,500 0 0	..	....
8	Dholee Mooslee (Tap root) ..	80	640 0 0	80	640 0 0	..	....
9	Peepreemool (Piper de Chotomum	50	2,000 0 0	50	2,000 0 0	..	....
10	Cummin Seeds	2,100	10,500 0 0	2,100	10,500 0 0	..	....
11	Red Chillies, Garlic, and Ginger fresh	300	750 0 0	300	750 0 0	..	....
12	Turmeric	500	2,500 0 0	500	2,500 0 0	..	....
13	Coriander Seeds	101	303 0 0	101	303 0 0	..	....
14	Kumblees (a coarse woollen cloth)..	..	3,000 0 0	..	3,000 0 0	..	....
15	Cotton (Raw)	500	2,750 0 0	500	2,750 0 0	..	....
16	Cloth (Purtabghur and Boorhanpoor)	..	2,06,000 0 0	..	1,94,000 0 0	..	12,000 0 0
17	Cloth for Quilts ..	..	7,000 0 0	..	6,500 0 0	..	500 0 0
18	Handkerchiefs from Jeypoor.	..	1,100 0 0	..	1,100 0 0	..	....

19	Bullocks (4,000) ..	..	..	80,000	0	0	..	75,000	0	0	No.250	5,000	0	0
20	Leather and Hides	..	..	600	0	0	..	600	0	0	..	....		
			..	12,64,893	0	0	..	12,16,993	0	0	..	47,900	0	0
			..	18,77,717	0	0	..	17,47,417	0	0	..	1,30,300	0	0

(Signed) C. R. WHITELOCK,
Political Agent.

Mahee Kanta Agency Office, Sadra, 19th December 1861.

(True copies)

(Signed) M. J. SHAW STEWART,
Acting Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX J.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

No. 1366 of 1862.

General Department.

To the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce,
Bombay.

Sir,—Applications having been submitted to the Governor in Council on behalf of the several Civil and Military Departments at the Presidency, soliciting the extension to the Government offices in Bombay of the privilege of a close holiday for ten (10) days,* as was sanctioned to the Government offices in Calcutta by the resolution of the Government of India dated 27th March 1861, copy of which is annexed for facility of reference, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to state that he would be glad to be informed whether there is any similar desire on the part of the commercial public, and if so, at what period of the year they would wish to give such a holiday. It has been suggested on the part of the heads of departments, that it would be most agreeable, as also convenient to all classes of Government servants in Bombay, to allow

* Extended to twelve days by the notification No. 64, dated 15th April 1862, published at page 1440 of the *Calcutta Gazette*, copy of which is appended.

of the relaxation from their official duties prayed for, during the hot weather, and that from the 25th May to the 5th June, both days inclusive, should be fixed upon.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 13th August 1862.

No. 70.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Financial Department, under date the 27th March 1861.

Read the undermentioned paper on the subject of the Hindoo holidays granted in the several Government offices at Calcutta:—

Letter from the Secretary Bengal Chamber of Commerce, dated 26th December 1860, drawing attention to the number of Hindoo holidays appointed for the year 1861, and suggesting a revision of the list of holidays, with a view to reducing their number.

Letter to the Committee of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, No. 1803, dated 22nd February 1861, concurring in the opinion of the Committee, and requesting them to nominate a member of the Chamber who would be willing to act in the committee proposed to be appointed to report on the subject.

Letter from the Secretary to the Chamber, dated 28th February 1861, nominating Mr. W. S. FitzWilliam to serve as a member of the proposed committee.

Letter to J. I. Harvey, Esq., Sub-Treasurer, W. S. Fitz-William, Esq., and Baboo Prosuno Coomar Tagore, No. 2080, dated 4th March 1861, appointing them to be a committee to report on the subject.

Letter from the Committee, No. 604, dated 16th March 1861, submitting their Report, with appendices.

RESOLUTION.—The Governor General in Council has

read the excellent Report submitted by the Committee on the abovementioned subject, and in expressing the thanks of the Government to the gentlemen composing the committee, he is pleased to approve of all their suggestions, and accordingly directs that the following Rules be observed in future in all the Government offices at Calcutta, with the exception of the Judicial Courts, for which other Rules are specially provided:—

That in addition to all Sundays, the undermentioned holidays, being generally observed throughout Her Majesty's Dominions, be granted to *all* classes of Government servants, the several offices being entirely closed, viz.—

New Year's Day	1 day.
Good Friday	1 „
Queen's Birthday	1 „
Christmas Day	1 „
Total..	4 days.

That the undermentioned Hindoo holidays be granted only to Hindoo servants of Government, viz:—

Seeree Punchomy	1 day.
Siboo Rattree	1 „
Dole Jattra	1 „
Barronee	1 „
Sree Ram Nubbomy	1 „
Moha Bishon Sancranti	1 „
Dhushoharra	1 „
Chaun Jattra	1 „
Ruth Jattra	1 „
Oolta Ruth	1 „
Rakhee Poorneema	1 „
Jumna Ostomee	1 „
Mohaloya	1 „
Doorga Poojah	4 „
Luckhee Poojah	1 „
Kalee Poojah	1 „
Bhratis Detcah	1 „
Kartick Poojah	1 „
Juggodhatree Poojah	1 „
Total..	22 days.

That the undermentioned Mahomedan holidays be granted only to Mahomedan servants of Government:—

Shub Barat	1	day.
Id-ul Fitr	1	„
Roz Ursab	1	„
Id-ul Azlea	1	„
Total..	4	days.

That on all the abovementioned holidays, the several Government offices at the Presidency shall remain open for the conduct of public business, which will be carried on by the remaining portion of the establishments.

That in addition to these, a *general holiday* for ten days be allowed to all classes of Government servants, the several offices being entirely closed. This holiday will probably be most convenient to all classes if granted immediately following the four days of Hindoo holidays of Doorga Poojah, and all Government offices will be closed accordingly.

The present system of advertising and closing the General Treasury on holidays is abolished. Each office will furnish itself with a copy of the above Rules, which should be suspended in a conspicuous place, for the information and guidance of all concerned.

ORDER.—Ordered, that a copy of the above Resolution be forwarded to the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and to the gentlemen named in the margin, for information.

J. I. Harvey, Esq., W. S. FitzWilliam, Esq., and Baboo Prosuno Coomar Tagore.

ORDERED, also, that a copy of the Resolution be forwarded to the Departments noted in the margin, and to the Government of Bengal, for the issue of the further necessary orders; also to the Audit Board, the Mint Committee, the Auditor General and the Accountant General to the Government of India, the Sub-Treasurer and the Civil Auditor, Fort William, and the Accountant to the Government of Bengal.

Foreign, Home, Military, Public Works.

ORDERED further, that the Resolution and the Report of the Committee be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*.

(A true extract)
(Signed) C. HUGH LUSHINGTON,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 64.

NOTIFICATION.—His Excellency the Governor General in Council has resolved, that, in supersession of all former orders in respect to public holidays in Calcutta, the following days, and no others, shall be observed as close holidays in all the public offices, except the Courts of Law, and the offices of the Department of Public Works, for which special arrangements exist:—

New Year's day	1
Sri Punchomi (February)	2
Good Friday and the day after	2
Choit Sankanti (April)	1
The Queen's Birthday (May)	1
Dushuhera (May)	1
Jummo Ostomee (August)	1
Mohaloyah (September or October)	1
Doorga and Lukhi Poojah (September or Oct)	12
Juggodathree (November)	2
Christmas Day and two days before or after	3
Total number of close holidays in the year	27

(Signed) J. DRUMMOND,
Offg. Secretary to the Government of India.

The 15th April 1862.

(True copies)

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Under-Secretary to Government.

No. 104 OF 1862.

To J. B. PEILE, Esq.,
Under-Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 1366 of 1862, dated 13th August, referring to the subject of a ten days' holiday at some period of the year.

The Committee believe that there is no period of the year when a holiday of ten days could be carried out without in-

convenience to the mercantile community, and more especially to those interested in the loading and despatch of ships.

The closing of Government offices for so lengthened a period would be found very inconvenient in practice, as most offices are more or less connected with mercantile interests; and the Chamber would therefore see the adoption of such a measure with regret. They would, however, recommend that all Governments offices (with the exception of the Custom House, in which a reduced staff might be retained) should close at 1 P.M. on Saturdays.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 4th September 1862.

APPENDIX K.

COTTON FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

No. 71 of 1862.

To the Right Honorable
The Lord Mayor of the City of London.

My Lord,—In the name of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Bombay, I have the honor to request that your Lordship will kindly receive the accompanying remittance of the sum of £5,000 sterling, and apply it in such a way as your Lordship may deem best, towards relieving the sufferings of the distressed mill hands of Lancashire.

The Committee venture to trouble your Lordship in this matter, as they feel assured that you will kindly undertake the charge, and as they desire to have the benefit of your judgment as to the best mode of applying the funds.

The subscriptions which have been placed in the hands of the Committee are not solely those of the European mercantile community—H. E. the Governor of Bombay, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army, with many others, have cordially supported the movement, and in the list of subscribers which I have the honor to enclose, your Lordship will be glad to observe the names of many of our Native fellow-subjects.

Subscriptions continue to flow in, and the Committee trust to be enabled to send another remittance by next mail.

In conclusion, I am instructed to state that the subscribers do not wish the application of the funds to be restricted exclusively to the relief of distress in Lancashire—they leave it to your Lordship to divert such portion as you may think fit to the relief of similarly caused distress in other parts of the United Kingdom.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) MICHAEL H. SCOTT,
Chairman.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 12th June 1862.

Memo. of Draft enclosed.

No. $\frac{F}{X}$ 00891, on demand, from the Oriental Bank, on the Bank of England, for £5,000, in favor of the Right Honorable the Lord Major of London.

To the Hon. MICHAEL H. SCOTT,
Chairman Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor, in the name and on behalf of the Committee formed in London for the relief of the Lancashire and Cheshire operatives, to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 12th June last, with its accompanying enclosures, in which you request me to take charge of the remittance of £5,000, and to apply the same in such a way as I may deem best, towards alleviating the sufferings of the distressed mill hands in England.

I beg at once to assure you, that I not only willingly accept the trust you have confided to me, but (assisted by the advice and practical experience of those gentlemen who have hitherto aided me in the distribution of the funds so liberally entrusted to our care, by the English public) I will endeavour to apply your munificent gift in such a manner as, upon careful consideration, we may deem the most appropriate for the object in view.

I also venture to avail myself of this opportunity to express my deep sense of the promptitude with which the inhabitants of Bombay have responded to the call of humanity and benevolence. It is indeed a pleasing characteristic of the case, that not alone have the European official and mercantile community, headed by His Excellency the Governor, come forward thus liberally, but I observe, with respect and satis-

faction, the names of many honored Native firms, whose hearts have been thus touched by the calamitous accounts of the present state of these poor English operatives.

One striking feature appears to have been evinced, in a most marked manner, among the "hungry thousands" in Lancashire and Cheshire, and that is, the patient and orderly resignation with which they, as a body, have borne their misfortunes. And from representations made to me from various districts, by clergymen and other gentlemen, it is clear that the poor feel that the cause of their distress has arisen solely from the stoppage in the supply of the raw material, and that no complaint can with reason be urged against either the Legislature or the mill-owners. Indeed, the operatives appear to accept the misfortune as a dispensation of Providence.

For the present wants, however, great and general exertions must be made; and though the machinery of the Poor Laws may do much, the aid of voluntary contributions is essential to alleviate the calamity, which has thrown so many thousands out of work, and brought poverty and distress upon them and their families.

May God in His mercy grant a speedy deliverance from their troubles.

Entreating you, Sir, to be the medium of communicating the thanks so eminently due to contributors of such a munificent remittance,—I have the honor to remain, &c.,

(Signed) WILLIAM CUBITT,
Lord Mayor.

Mansion House, London, E. C., 18*th July* 1862.

APPENDIX L.

EUROPEAN DESTITUTION.

No. 2204 of 1862.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit the accompanying copies of a letter from the Second Magistrate of Police, and of a minute which has been recorded thereon by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, relative to the destitution of Europeans in India.

To the address of the Senior Magistrate of Police.

2. In forwarding these papers, I am desired to request that the Chamber of Commerce will be good enough to nominate one or two gentlemen to act as a Committee with the Reverend W. K. Fletcher, the Reverend C. T. Wilson, and Mr. C. Forjett (with power to add to their number), for the purpose of inquiring and reporting on the subject.

3. His Excellency in Council requests that the Committee, after calling for all the information procurable from the offices and records of Government, as well as from all other likely sources, will favour Government with a report, showing—

I. The extent and progressive growth in late years of the evil of European destitution and mendicity.

II. What machinery now exists for its relief at the Presidency and other large towns, and how far such machinery is sufficient or defective.

III. To furnish Government with a detailed and definite plan for enabling it to co-operate with private charity for the systematic, and, as far as possible, permanent relief of European pauperism, on the extended scale indicated in His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief's minute.

4. The Governments of Bengal and Madras will be requested to furnish statements of what has been or is being done by the Governments in those Presidencies, for the relief of European pauperism at the capitals, as well as lists of Societies or Institutions, by which private charity is dispensed to the European pauper population, together with copies of any reports, &c., on the subject which may be procurable. The documents, when received, will be placed in the hands of the Committee.

5. The Lord Bishop of Bombay, the Roman Catholic Bishop, and the Clerks of the Sessions of the Established and Free Kirks of Scotland, will also be requested to favour the Committee with any suggestions which may occur to them for promoting so desirable an object.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) R. West,
Officiating Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 27th June 1862.

To William Crawford, Esq.,
Senior Magistrate of Police.

Sir,—I have the honour to request that you will be pleased to bring to the notice of Government that very frequent applications are now being made by destitute seamen and other Europeans for relief in this Court; but in consequence of the poor-box being empty, there are no means of helping these distressed persons from that source.

I have therefore, in many cases, after due inquiry, felt constrained to send distressed seamen to the Sailors' Home, on my own responsibility; and as this course may become inconvenient, and as it is likely the Government will aid in this matter if brought to notice, I take the liberty of sug-

gesting to you that application be made to His Excellency the Governor in Council for the grant of some funds from which the Magistrates may be enabled to relieve such emergent cases of European destitution as may be brought before them.

I would also beg to suggest the advisability of your inserting in the newspapers, and *Government Gazette*, a notice to the effect that "funds are required for relief of destitute Europeans, and that you will receive them and account for them," and I have no doubt that more money than is actually needed for this purpose will be immediately forthcoming from the liberal public of Bombay.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) N. OLIVER,
2nd Magistrate of Police.

Bombay, Fort Police Office, 19th May 1862.

No. 319 OF 1862.

Forwarded for the favorable consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council.

(Signed) W. CRAWFORD,
Senior Magistrate and Commissioner of Police.

Bombay Police Office, 19th May 1862.

Minute by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, dated 6th June 1862.

As shown before, I have long been keenly alive to the shame and inconvenience to which we are exposed by the destitution of some of our countrymen in India, under such circumstances, or worse than those reported on in this letter. It would hardly be unfair to say that these facts involve a serious stigma on the character of our Government, which must suffer in Native eyes accordingly, and that, putting aside the question of charity, we lose in prestige as the dominant race in this country, by permitting such a state of things.

What a denial of the practice and lessons of our Church, what a contradiction of the Missionary, is conveyed in the fact that such things do exist. With our daily increasing trade, with our immense development of public works, a certain settlement of Englishmen, belonging to the lower classes, or those depending on daily labour for their bread, is now in progress.

An army, whether of soldiers or of workmen, must have its invalids, its wounded, its lame and blind. In the former class, provision is made for their deportation, and for that of their wives and families, when they become inefficient. In the latter, although year by year the class in India increases, and must increase in number, to which the proportion of disease, and therefore of destitution, cannot but be a certain quantity, there is as yet no means of affording relief, except through the precarious means of private unorganised charity; while deportation to England, with or without the consent of the subject, is impossible, or nearly so, for want of funds and arrangements.

It is probable that legislation is required for the deportation of vagrants; but assistance from Government or elsewhere is also required for an asylum to receive, and for the sea voyage of invalids, minors, and women, incapable of working a passage, but who are desirous of returning home, to live with their friends, or take their chance in their parishes.

Private charity would do much, if organised for such a purpose; but it can hardly be gainsaid, that Government should take the lead, and afford the necessary organisation with a certain fund in aid.

It appears to me, therefore, that some sort of asylum should be established in Bombay, to receive such unfortunate people, till arrangements for their passage to England could be secured, or, in the case of healthy men and women, for obtaining employment in this country, when they are either country born, though of British parents, or from other causes have no parishes to which to resort in Great Britain.

Government might, I think, declare to advance a moderate sum annually, to the joint purpose of maintaining the asylum and of paying the passages home of those desirous of going, but unable from debility, old age, childhood, or sex, to earn a passage by working. There would of course

sometimes be cases, in which assistance should be given, though the destitute men might physically be able to work a passage. On such matters, the persons enstrusted with the duty of carrying into execution any scheme Government might decide on, would be best able to judge, a report or application to Government being made in each case.

While, however, I think Government should take the lead in this very necessary business, I would not relieve the British community at large from subscribing to the good work, in which it is so largely interested. I think a system of subscription should be organised throughout the Presidency, in the manner in which such matters are usually conducted, the aid of the Lord Bishop and his Clergy being respectfully requested.

The asylum being in Bombay itself, might, if possible, be put under the immediate care of the Chamber of Commerce. That body, if asked, would probably nominate the necessary committee and office-bearers to give effect to such a scheme as has been sketched.

At first sight it would appear well to devolve it on the Municipality. It seems to me, however, that the latter might be less convenient for such a purpose than the former. If it should be expedient to apply to either of these bodies, we might form a Committee of the Commissioner of Police, of one of the Presidency Chaplains, and the Surgeon in charge of the General Hospital, or of any other functionaries Government might wish to select or who might be indicated by public opinion. I incline, however, to the idea that it would be well to entrust the institution I contemplate at Bombay to a popular body, if it be possible, as being more likely to enlist the sympathies, and therefore the charity, of the community.

The deportation of vagrants, the securing of passages for paupers, &c., would require the fiat, perhaps the assistance, of Government, though the directors of the institution might be entrusted with carrying out the details, in aid of which the Deputy Quartermaster General and the Commissariat Department at the Presidency might be requested to exert themselves.

The foregoing suggestions are crude, and of but little value but as affording a feeble guide to any committee or officer that Government might nominate to report on the whole

subject, before committing itself to any line of action or counsel.

In the mean time, I would again remark, that the evil of British destitution in India is a growing one, and that we cannot too soon bestir ourselves to afford a remedy by legislation, if legislation be necessary, by Government patronage and direction, and by an annual appeal to the charity of the British community in this Presidency. If the latter be properly directed, and it be seen that under a proper superintendence, guaranteed by Government, real charity and relief are afforded, without waste or jobbery, we shall find that all classes of that community will contribute, from the rich functionaries and merchants to the railway operatives and private soldiers.

The State will really be put to small expense, if it will afford the neccssary direction and organisation.

(Signed) W. R. MANSFIELD.

(True copy)

(Signed) R. WEST,
Offg. Under-Secretary to Government.

No. 81 OF 1862.

To R. WEST, Esq.,
Offg. Under-Secretary to Government,
Judicial Department, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 2204 of 1862, dated 27th ultimo, and to state, in reply, that they have appointed the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Chamber, the Honorable Mr. M. H. Scott and Mr. Robert Hannay, to act with the other Members of the Committee appointed to inquire and report on the subject of European destitution in India.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 4th July 1862.

APPENDIX M

Mr. FORJETT.

No. 29 of 1862.

To B. H. Ellis, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to bring to your notice the very high opinion held by the mercantile community of the value of Mr. Forjett's services as Deputy Commissioner of Police.

The Committee understand that this gentleman has tendered his resignation, finding that the impaired state of his health will not permit his effectively performing the night duties devolving upon him. But as relief from this portion of his labours would not involve any very considerable extra expense for the salary of a competent assistant, the Committee trusts that the Government will take the matter into their consideration, and, if possible, retain Mr. Forjett's services.

The Chamber is convinced that the community at large would feel the resignation of Mr. Forjett as a public loss.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. Brooke,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 11th March 1862.

No. 955 OF 1862.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 29, dated the 11th instant, and to inform you that Mr. Forjett has already submitted an application for permission to retire on pension. The loss of his services will undoubtedly be felt in Bombay, but His Excellency the Governor in Council does not consider that it would be possible to relieve the Deputy Commissioner of Police of any of the duties and responsibilities of his position, even with the object of retaining Mr. Forjett's services in that appointment.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) M. J. SHAW STEWART,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 18th March 1862.

No. 60 OF 1862.

To A. D. ROBERTSON, Esq., C. S.,
Chief Secretary to Government.

SIR,—In conformity with the annexed resolution passed at the General Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held on Wednesday the 14th May 1862, I have the honor, by desire of the Committee of the Chamber, again to address you on the subject of the retaining, if possible, the services of Mr. Forjett in his present position of Superintendent of Police.

I have not given Mr. Forjett his official title ; for though nominally subordinate to Mr. Crawford, in whom the two offices of Senior Magistrate and Commissioner of Police are combined, he has been throughout his carcer at the Presidency the virtual head of the Police Force, and to him is entirely owing its present efficiency.

The members of the Chamber cannot forget the circumstances under which Mr. Forjett came to Bombay; and as their representations to Government were at that time listened to, and were, to a certain extent, the cause of his being

brought to the Presidency, they venture again most respectfully to address Government, in the hope that their representations now may be permitted to have some weight.

It is unnecessary for the Chamber to remark upon the value of Mr. Forjett's services, as this has been on many occasions freely acknowledged by Government: they believe, however, that it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to find an equally efficient officer as his successor; and though not sharing in the absolute dread with which a large number of the Native merchants of Bombay appear to regard his probable retirement, they cannot but consider that it would be a great public loss: they would therefore urge upon Government the desirability, if possible, of retaining his services.

The Chamber believe that the present arrangement, whereby the offices of Senior Magistrate and Commissioner of Police are combined in one, while the virtual superintendence of the whole Police Force is committed to the Deputy Commissioner, is in many respects objectionable in principle. It does not appear to have been contemplated by Act No. XIII. of 1856; and though doubtless sanctioned by Government for what appeared at the time to be good and sufficient reasons, it has, the Chamber would respectfully submit, been also found to be objectionable in practice. They would therefore suggest for the consideration of Government whether it would not be very desirable to separate the two offices referred to, and to revert to what appears to have been the arrangement originally contemplated, viz. the appointment of two officers, a Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Police, whose duties should be entirely confined to the superintendence of the Police Force. The Chamber believe the change which they suggest to be exceedingly desirable, whether Mr. Forjett's services be retained or not; but they would consider it peculiarly so at the present moment, if, by its adoption, and by Mr. Forjett's advancement to the superior post, his labours could be so lessened as to enable him, without injury to his health, to remain at the head of the Police Force.

The Chamber trust that His Excellency in Council will not consider these suggestions intrusive; they are prompted solely by the very high sense which the Chamber entertain of the value of Mr. Forjett's past services, and by their anxiety that, if it be possible, these should still be retained. The Chamber believe that their voice in this matter may be

considered as that of the whole community of Bombay.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 21st May 1862.

Resolution passed at a Special General Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held on Wednesday the 14th May 1862.

"It was then proposed by the Hon'ble M. H. Scott, Esq., seconded by R. McIlwraith, Esq., and carried unanimously, That the Committee be instructed again to address Government on the subject of Mr. Forjett's retirement, and respectfully to suggest that, if it be possible, the services of so efficient a Police Officer should be retained."

No. 1803 OF 1862.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 21st ultimo, No. 60, and to inform you that Mr. Forjett has been permitted retire from the service on pension on his own application, which was granted by Government with much regret at the loss of a valuable public servant.

Government have received no request from Mr. Forjett to be permitted to withdraw his application, and remain at his present post. In the absence of any such request from that gentleman himself, the Chamber of Commerce will see that it is impossible to comply with the suggestion contained in your letter.

I am at the same time desired to state, that the subject of the separation of the offices of Commissioner of Police and of Senior Magistrate, and the arguments with which it is supported by the Chamber of Commerce, shall have the best consideration of Government.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) R. WEST,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 4th June 1862.

APPENDIX N.

MERINO WOOL.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—With reference to a sample of wool from the Punjaub which was handed to the Chamber some months ago by Mr. Spooner, with a request that a report on the wool might be furnished for the information of the Government, I have now the pleasure to advise you that the sample truss, which was given over to my care by the Committee, with instructions to have it sent to England and there examined and reported on by competent judges of the article, has safely reached this country per "Phœbe Dunbar," and that I have submitted the wool to two wool brokers, the one in London and the other in Liverpool, requesting them to furnish a full report, with any suggestions as to preparation, &c. that they might deem useful. The two reports you will find subjoined: it is satisfactory to observe how closely they agree in the character and valuation they give to the wool.

I have given instructions to have the truss sold, reserving a small portion as a sample, which I shall send out to you per overland route, as it may prove useful for identification with the reports. Amount of the portion sold shall be rendered as soon as possible; the price obtained for the wool at public sale will form an additional certificate of its market value.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) ANDREW GRANT.

London, 26th October 1861.

Report on a Truss of East India Wool received from Messrs. JOHN CAMPBELL & Co., *of London, by* JOHN L. BOWES & BROTHER, *Wool Brokers, Liverpool.*

The bale of sheep's wool received from Bombay, and handed to us for report, is quite of a different character from the wool usually imported from the East Indies. This bale is of the merino breed, and resembles Cape of Good Hope wool.

It is only partially washed, unassorted, chiefly white, but mixed with black wool, and slightly burry. The value in its present state in the English market is 1*s.* 6*d.* per lb. It competes directly with wool from the Cape and Australia. For European consumption, there will be a ready sale for a quantity comparatively unlimited.

As regards preparation for future shipments, there are various modes; the two principal are—

I. To wash the wool on the sheep's back in clean water, before clipping, to roll up the fleece, immediately after clipping, in a bundle, taking care not to tear it, excepting by taking away the coarse pieces about the legs, and the dirt locks about the tail—these should be separated and packed alone.

II. To ship the wool in a natural state (*i. e.* unwashed), separating the inferior parts as described in No. I. Also, the black wool should in all cases be packed separate from the white.

One or other of these two ways is recommended in the case of the wool under report.

III. Another, but more expensive mode, is the following:—After clipping (without previous washing), to assort the wool into qualities, and then to scour the wool white, and make it perfectly clean and dry. The scouring can be done in warm or cold water, with a little soap and urine. Care must be taken not to rub it into matted strings. The loss of weight between wool in the state as represented by the bale, and the same wool when scoured, will be 38 per cent., and the value of the average of the various sorts when scoured and sorted will be 2*s.* 6*d.* per lb. White wool is 10 per cent. more valuable than yellow, and about 15 per cent. more valuable than black.

Burrs (prickly seeds) are very disadvantageous, say 5 to 25 per cent. on the value, according to the quantity of them.

It is usually found that a climate either extremely hot or

extremely cold is prejudicial to the growth of wool: they render the staple hard, tender, and hairy, while a temperate climate favors a soft, elastic, and sound staple. When, however, other conditions interpose, for instance, a moderately warm temperature, produced by elevation, as in parts of Queensland, Australia, the merino sheep thrives and gives excellent wool. We enclose a circular issued by the Chamber of Commerce at Bradford, from which it will be observed that the import of long-stapled wool of the Leicester breed is chiefly encouraged because expressly suited for the worsted trade; but large sheep of this class cannot thrive without good pasture, and will starve on the short grasses suitable for the smaller merino sheep. Experience has yet to prove whether the Indian climates are adapted for merino sheep, but probably on the elevated land (but not too cold) suitable districts may be found.

Circular referred to appended to this copy of report.

We believe the value of the bag of wool in its natural (*i. e.* wholly unwashed) state would be about 10½*d.* per lb., and that in scouring (*i. e.* perfect washing) it would shrink about 63 per cent.

Report on a Truss of East India Wool received from Messrs. JOHN CAMPBELL & CO., *of London, by* GEORGE B. WINDELER, *Wool Broker, London.*

I have examined at your request the bale of wool consigned to you from India, and beg to offer you the following remarks upon it:—

The wool is evidently from a good breed of sheep, but in its treatment for our market sufficient care has not been bestowed to attract the general competition it would secure if presenting a more sightly appearance. The quality is good, but, probably from want of rich pasture for the sheep, the staple is tender and hard; there are likewise a few burrs and seeds, which greatly detract from its value for general purposes. The "locks," black wool, and pieces, should likewise be packed separately, and, if possible, the various classes and qualities sorted out and classified. A flock giving these signs of a careful and judicious handling naturally allows our manufacturers to purchase in confidence, and to give a full value.

A similar class of wool from the Cape of Good Hope, which it most resembles, should cost, when perfectly clean scoured, fit for use, from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.* 7*d.* per lb.; the sample bale you have would probably waste in scouring from 38 to 40 per cent. The wool in its present state is therefore not worth more than 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 7*d.* per lb. in the English market.

It would perhaps be more advantageous to ship the wool "in the grease," thus saving all expense for washing, when it would probably be worth from 10½*d.* to 11*d.* per lb. at the present time, and estimating the probable waste in that state from scouring at 63 to 65 per cent. If well washed *before clipping*, or thoroughly scoured *afterwards*, the cost for carriage would be proportionally less; but in the latter instance, as it is not probable that great perfection in scouring would at first be obtained, thus leaving the wool still in a state in which it would lose a further 25 per cent. in cleaning it thoroughly, the highest value that could be calculated on would be from 1*s.* 10*d.* to 1*s.* 11*d.* per lb.; and this is always under the supposition that the locks and black wool are sorted out and packed separately. For the black wool the demand is not so regular as for the white; much depends upon fashion: usually it is inferior in value about 1*d.* per lb., though frequently it has commanded higher prices.

No. 195 OF 1861.

To ANDREW GRANT, Esq.,
London.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 26th October last, and to tender you their best thanks for the trouble you have taken in furnishing reports on the parcel of merino wool received from the Commissioner of Customs. —I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 9th December 1861.

No. 194 OF 1861.

To E. L. JENKINS, Esq.,

Acting Commissioner of Customs, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to the letter of the Chamber, No. 84 of 1860, dated 4th August 1860, I have now the honor to hand you copy of a communication received from Mr. Grant, late Chairman of the Chamber, with reports on the parcel of merino wool submitted for opinion.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 5th December 1861.

APPENDIX O.

PETTY BROKERAGE ON CHARTERS.

To J. N. FLEMING, Esq.,
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—Our attention has recently been drawn to the charge for petty brokerage on the engagement of freight to eastern ports, and on reference to the Report of the Chamber for 1859-60 we find that the Sub-Committee, appointed to confer with the brokers regarding the rule then existing, reported as follows:—

"The Committee appointed to confer with the Freight Brokers on the subject of the proposed change in the rates of brokerage have now to report that, with but one exception, the Brokers, European as well as Native, view with disfavour the proposed change.

"It is evident, that the principle of paying say one per cent. on the amount of freights, as in Calcutta and other places, could only be established by the adhesion of every European firm, whether Members of the Chamber or not; and in the present state of opinion on the subject, this unanimity can hardly be calculated upon.

"With regard to the allowance on freights to China, and elsewhere in the East, although nominally petty brokerage, your Committee regard it rather in the light of a discount on the freight, which usually finds its way into the pockets of the principals, or is allowed as a perquisite

to their establishments. In the case of charters for China, it may be looked upon as the profit of the Native charterer. Any alteration, therefore, in the system now prevailing, would affect the question of trade allowances rather than that of petty brokerage."

We consider the last paragraph very objectionable, and calculated to convey a totally wrong impression. It is stated that the petty brokerage usually finds its way into the pockets of the principals, or becomes the perquisite of their establishments: this leaves the impression that the owners or agents of the ship derive some benefit from it; which is obviously incorrect.

The usual charge of 2 per cent. on eastern charters appears to us extravagantly and unnecessarily high; and, although the rate can be made a matter of agreement, we strongly urge on the Chamber the necessity for the establishment of a rule for general guidance, and we see no just reason why the uniform rate of annas 4 per ton should not hold good to all parts of the world.

We trust the Committee of the Chamber will submit this proposition to its members with as little delay as possible.—We remain, &c.,

(Signed) PEEL, CASSELS, & Co.

Bombay, 3rd March 1862.

APPENDIX P.

SURVEY OF STEAM-VESSELS.

No. 1033 OF 1862.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—In transmitting to you the accompanying copy of Act V. of 1862 of the Bengal Legislative Council, to provide for the periodical survey of "steam-vessels in the port of Calcutta," I am directed to request that you will be so good as to move the Chamber of Commerce to favor Government with their opinion as to the propriety of enacting any similar law for the periodical survey of coasting steamers in Bombay.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

Published at page 1898 of the *Calcutta Gazette* of 14th May 1862.

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 12th June 1862.

No. 91 OF 1862.

To J. B. PEILE, Esq.,
Under-Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of

your letters of 12th June and 21st July, numbered 1033 and 1254, requesting the opinion of the Chamber as to the desirability of extending to Bombay the provisions of Act V. of 1862, to provide for the periodical survey of coasting steamers.

The Chamber is of opinion that a measure of this description is in the highest degree desirable, and the Bill in question well calculated to effect the object in view.

I must apologise for the delay that has taken place, which is attributable to the first letter having been mislaid.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 5th August 1862.

No. 106 OF 1862.

To J. B. PEILE, Esq.,
Under-Secretary to Government, General Department,
Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to my letter No. 91, of 5th August last, I am instructed by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce to represent to Government the necessity, in their opinion, that the officer entrusted with the important duty of surveying the steamers leaving this port should be a thoroughly competent engineer. Such a person as the present Chief Engineer and Inspector of Machinery in the Dockyard would be admirably fitted for the post.

The Committee trust that Government will pardon their making this suggestion, which should have formed part of their original letter above referred to.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 5th September 1862.

APPENDIX Q.

INCOME-TAX.

No. 183 of 1861.

To A. D. Robertson, Esq.,

Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—The Members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce have requested me respectfully to represent to His Excellency the Governor in Council the injustice to which the inhabitants of the town and island of Bombay will be subjected, if the proposal to exempt them alone, of Her Majesty's subjects in this Presidency, including Scinde, from the operation of the Act mentioned in the margin, be carried out.

Act XXI. of 1861, whereby the returns as accepted for assessment of Income-tax for the year commencing 1st August 1860 are permitted to stand as a basis for assessment in the year commencing 1st August 1861.

It is not surprising that amongst this community, the only one in the Presidency to which the privilege conferred by the Act alluded to has been denied, a very general feeling that it has been somewhat invidiously dealt with should prevail; and in seeking to understand the grounds on which this island only has been excepted, the Chamber believes that the exemption has been decided on under some misapprehension, such as that the income-tax of almost all the important trading classes on this side of India—of those

whose incomes were liable to great fluctuation from year to year—was paid in Bombay.

This, however, is not the case: many Natives, very largely interested in the export and import trade direct with England and other countries, have merely clerks, or moonims, here, they themselves residing in the interior, where they keep their books and pay their income-tax. One-half the aggregate of shipments of cotton from this port is made in this way by Natives, who reside, many at Ahmedabad, some at Broach, Surat, and elsewhere, and who, although of late realising greatly increased profits, will be assessed on their last year's small returns, whilst merchants resident in Bombay will be called on for amended ones. Indeed, from the way in which the trade of the country is carried on, it is evident that the rise and fall in values of produce, and other circumstances, must entail amongst the inhabitants, not only of the places mentioned above, but also of the Southern Mahratta Country, Khandeish, and Kurrachee, fluctuations of income as great as are known in Bombay. Many Members of the Chamber of Commerce, I am to observe, having compounded for a fixed assessment for three or five years, are not personally affected by the exclusion of the town and island of Bombay from the operation of Act XXI. of 1861: they cannot, however, but view that exclusion as opposed to the principle on which His Excellency's measures have always been based—that of extending to all classes and communities alike the benefits of a wise and just Government.

The Chamber has thought it right to address the Bombay Government on this subject, as the notice exempting Bombay from Act XXI., although under the authority of the Supreme Government, is understood to have been determined on at the suggestion of the Honorable the Governor in Council, and the Chamber would express an earnest hope that the Act be extended to the town and island of Bombay, and that the returns which may in the meantime be sent in be permitted to be cancelled.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES N. FLEMING,
Chairman.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 9th October 1861.

No. 4744 of 1861.

Revenue Department.

To J. N. Fleming, Esq.,
Chairman to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Sir,—I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, appealing against the decision of Government not to extend Act XXI. of 1861 to the town and island of Bombay, and in reply to state, that it was not under any misapprehension of the kind referred to by the Chamber, nor from any partial or class consideration, that His Excellency in Council was induced to withhold the extension of Act XXI. of 1861 from the town and island of Bombay, and that the decision in question was arrived at after a careful and full inquiry into the general working of the Income-tax Act during the past year. From the information received from the Income-tax Commissioners, Government have learnt, that owing to the delay which unavoidably took place in commencing the work of assessment last year, some of the returns were not so carefully inquired into as to justify their being confirmed for a second year.

2. In reference to the observations contained in paragraph 2 of your letter, His Excellency in Council desires me to state that the Chamber of Commerce appear to have overlooked the fact that the returns called for in connection with the current year's assessment will show in the case of Native merchants the profits on the trade of the year ending with the Dewallee of Sumwut 1916, or October 1860, that being the last "balance of accounts" made up by them; and that the accounts for that year are, as regards several extensive classes of traders, supposed to be of a less profitable nature than those for the year ending with the Dewallee of 1915, on which the returns for last year's tax were based. And that this alone (even had Act XXI. of 1861 been extended to Bombay) would have necessitated the re-examination of a large proportion of the returns of last year, with a view to admit of such reductions as may in consequence appear to be just.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. Robertson,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 30th October 1861.

Telegram from Chamber of Commerce, Madras, to Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

The Madras Government are calling upon consignees of goods to pay income-tax upon profits on consignments made to this from England and other countries. Please telegraph if such practice obtains at Bombay.—9-11-50.

Reply.

No house here has ever paid income-tax on profits made for their constituents residing out of India.

APPENDIX R.

CURRENCY NOTES.

No. 20 of 1862.

To A. D. Robertson, Esq.,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government,
Financial Department, Bombay.

Sir,—It has come to the notice of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce that the Government notes about to be issued by the Paper Currency Commissioners, through the Agency of the Bank of Bombay, do not bear upon their face their designation or value in any of the Native languages in common use in this Presidency.

Though this Chamber has, as you are aware, always viewed the proposed Government paper currency with some anxiety, it has been most anxious for its success, and desirous to do everything in its power to aid in securing this. The Committee therefore trust that Government will take into its early and earnest consideration the representations which I am now instructed to lay before you.

It appears to the Committee to be of vital importance, that, at the first commencement of so momentous an experiment as a Government paper currency in this country, no effort should be spared, and no precaution neglected, to secure at once, in so far as may be possible, the confidence of the Native community.

The Committee cannot, therefore, consider as otherwise than most serious, the omission to which they now call the attention of Government.

The notes, in their present form, may undoubtedly be forced into circulation in the comparative civilisation, so to speak, of the Presidency towns; but were this all, they would only prove a substitute, in all probability an inefficient one, for some time to come, for the present circulation of the Bank of Bombay. * *

The objects with which the Government paper currency was proposed would be entirely defeated, were circulation of the notes not generally to extend throughout the mofussil.

That it can do so without securing the confidence of the people is impossible, and the absence of any writing by which the Natives can satisfy themselves as to the character and value of the securities tendered to them can hardly fail to render the notes to some extent objects of suspicion.

It has, the Committee understand, been proposed to supply the omission by stamping upon the face of the notes, as now existing, their value in Guzerattee and Mahrathi characters; but the Committee consider this course open to grave objection.

The stamps would evidently have formed no part of the original notes, and this fact of itself might probably only increase the distrust with which the notes might from their novelty be regarded. These stamps, moreover, might be liable to comparatively easy forgery; and constituting, as they would, the only marks by which the Natives could recognise the value of the notes, their liability in this respect becomes all the more serious.

The Committee could not consider as satisfactory anything short of the embodying, in the body of the original notes, their designation and value in the characters of the Native languages known in this Presidency.

Until this can be done, the Committee would most urgently press upon Government the desirability of postponing the issue of the proposed paper currency; it would, in their opinion, be infinitely better to delay, than rashly to incur any needless risk of failure.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 18th February 1862.

No. 261 OF 1862.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,

Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—In answer to your letter No. 20, of the 18th instant, expressing the objections of the Chamber of Commerce to the Government paper currency notes, I am directed to inform you that Government are of opinion that any addition to the legend of the bank-notes, for which Act XIX. of 1861 does not provide, had better be avoided; and His Excellency in Council believes that Natives of the country will find no difficulty in satisfying themselves of the value of the notes offered for their acceptance. There is no alternative now but to issue the notes, and it may be hoped, as the denomination of value will be generally intelligible, that the fears of the Chamber exaggerate the emergency.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. PEILE,

Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21st February 1862.

APPENDIX S.

STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT.

No. 967 of 1862.

Financial Department.

To the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce,
Bombay.

Sir,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor in Council to request that you will call the attention of the Chamber of Commerce to the extract from the proceedings of the Government of India in the Financial Department, dated the 6th ultimo (copy of which is herewith forwarded), on the subject of the organisation of a Statistical Department, and favor Government with their suggestions as to the collection and publication of statistical information in this Presidency.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) J. B. Peile,
Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 17*th July* 1862.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

ORGANISATION of a STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Financial Department, under date the 6th June 1862.

READ again Financial Resolution, No. 84, dated 13th May 1862.

In this Resolution, the preparation of commercial and financial statistics was referred to as one of two objects to be kept in view in the reorganisation of the Financial Department.

There is, His Excellency the Governor General in Council observes, a mass of statistics in the administration reports of the different local Governments, and among the records of the various Government offices, but they are not compiled on any uniform plan, nor brought together in any central office, so as to show the statistics of the empire.

It is very obvious that it would be greatly for the advantage both of Government and of the commercial community to have a regular methodical compilation and annual publication of such returns of trade, navigation, and finance, as are published in England by the Board of Trade and the Treasury, and such compilation and publication would, in the opinion of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, be best effected in the Financial Department, which would have most need for statistical information, and has large experience in compiling statements and returns received from all parts of India.

The Financial Department must, however, His Excellency in Council observes, be careful to make no demand for statistical information, except from its own officers, without first ascertaining from the department of Government concerned whether it can be obtained without overloading public officers with extra work. As a general rule, the fewer details required, the more valuable and correct will be the information. An intelligent officer could often himself give a concise report of the general features of trade in his district, which would be accurate and valuable, while, if he were called upon for complicated returns, he must leave them to careless subordinates, or neglect more important duties.

The Returns of the English Board of Trade should, His Excellency in Council is of opinion, be taken as the basis of

action, and each head gone through to see how far it is applicable to India without entailing any serious trouble or expense. Endeavours should be made to induce the different local authorities to keep their statements in the uniform forms thus adopted, or, if kept differently for local convenience, to reduce their figures of measure or value to a common standard.

The Chamber of Commerce will, His Excellency in Council believes, gladly give valuable assistance as to commercial statistics. Other branches of statistics of natural importance might be gradually added, as of population, like those of the English Registrar General, and agricultural statistics, but this should only be done cautiously, and the Government will abstain from anything like nearly scientific statistics, confining itself to those which have an immediate bearing on practical legislation and Government.

A Statistical Society, aided and encouraged by the Government, but self-managed and voluntary, would be a most useful adjunct to any scheme of official statistics, and would embrace many fields of useful and interesting inquiry which a Government could not undertake, while the advice and assistance of its leading members would be of great use in assisting the Government to frame its own returns and direct its own inquiries.

Offers of aid have been received from some gentlemen who contemplate the formation of such a Society, and, as a first step towards the practical attainment of the above objects, His Excellency the Governor General in Council is pleased to appoint a Committee, consisting of

The Hon'ble Mr. Erskine,
" " " Bullen, and
Mr. G. Smith,
and
The Hon'ble E. Drummond,
Mr. Grote, and
" E. C. Bayley,

as representing the Government (with power to add to their number), for the purpose of revising the Board of Trade and other official returns, and of reporting to the Government as to the forms and regulations which they would recommend with a view to the compilation of a uniform system of

imperial statistics in the newly created branch of the Financial Department.

No. 3960.

ORDERED, that a copy of the foregoing Resolution be communicated to the several Local Governments and Administrations, for information.

(A true extract)

(Signed) E. DRUMMOND,
Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 95 OF 1862.

To J. B. PEILE, Esq.,
Under-Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to acknowledge your letter No. 967, of 17th ultimo, with accompaniments, relative to the organisation of a Statistical Department.

There can be no question but that a regular methodical compilation of returns of trade, navigation, and finance for all India, published quarterly, would be a boon to the commercial community, and of advantage at the same time to Government.

The Committee are of opinion that the form of return used in the Bombay Custom House, based on that of the English Board of Trade returns, is as good as can be wished for. They would recommend that, if possible, a quarterly statement of the Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, and Kurrachee accounts relating to trade and navigation should be published in a concise form, similar to that adopted by the *Economist* newspaper, provided the same could be placed in the hands of the public within one month from the last day of each quarter.

Statistics furnished by officers of Government in the interior have rarely been found of use to the mercantile

community. Indeed, in some instances, they have been positively mischievous. The Committee would therefore suggest, that when almost perfect correctness cannot be attained in particular items, it would be better to leave them out of the returns from the interior, until such time as the department is thoroughly organised, and the returns compiled on a uniform plan.

The Chamber of Commerce here will, the Committee feel assured, be happy at all times to render Government what assistance they may have in their power.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 15th August 1862.

APPENDIX T.

PREPAYMENT OF LETTERS TO EGYPT.

No. 1 OF 1862.

To E. IMPEY, Esq.,
Post Master General, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to bring to your notice the extreme inconvenience occasioned to the public at large, and more particularly to the mercantile community, by the enforcement of those Sections of the Post Office Act (No. XVII. of 1854) which provide for the return of letters insufficiently stamped.

On a recent occasion, a letter containing an important telegram for the Malta line was despatched to Alexandria, but being insufficiently stamped by two annas, was returned to the writers the day following the departure of the overland mail steamer, thus delaying the information for at least eight days.

The Chamber were under the impression that, in consequence of their urgent representations, this objectionable practice had been discontinued; and I am directed, therefore, to hand you annexed copies of the letters between Government and the Chamber on the subject. It is probable that the return of the letter in question has been ordered through inadvertence of the subordinate officials of the Post Office, and

I have therefore respectfully to request that directions may be given which will remove the possibility of such accidents occurring in future, as very heavy losses may be occasioned by the detention of important letters.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 9th January 1862.

No. 192 OF 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to your letter No. 1, dated the 9th instant, I beg you will be good enough to favour me with the cover of the letter therein referred to, in order to enable me to institute the necessary inquiries regarding the delay in its return to you.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) T. GARRETT,
Post Master.

Bombay General Post Office, 15th January 1862.

No. 8 OF 1862.

To T. GARRETT, Esq.,
Post Master, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to hand you enclosed the cover of the letter despatched by Messrs. Robinson & Co., and returned to them on the 27th December.

I beg to observe, that it is not the delay in returning the letter of which the Chamber complain, but of the fact of letters insufficiently stamped being detained, when it would

appear as easy to levy double postage on delivery in Egypt, or elsewhere, as it is in Bombay, where that course is constantly pursued.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 25th January 1862.

No. 364 OF 1862.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 8, of this day's date, and to inform you that the subject contained in the 2nd paragraph of your letter will be laid before the Post Master General for his consideration.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) T. GARRETT,
Post Master.

Bombay General Post Office, 25th January 1862.

No. 530 OF 1862.

To E. IMPEY, Esq.,
Post Master General, Bombay.

SIR,—The papers covered by your docket No. 96, of the 9th ultimo, I have the honor to return, and to state, that from the inquiry instituted, the delay in returning the insufficiently paid letter alluded to was caused by its being discovered on the last opening of the receiving box at 5 P. M., when it was too late that night, and was returned next morning.

2. I have now the honor to place before you a subsequent letter, No. 8, of the 25th ultimo, from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, showing it was not the delay in sending back, but its *not* being *despatched* by the mail, that the Chamber complain of, and urge on consideration.

3. If I be allowed the remark, it occurs to me there can be no question that very serious results most follow from important commercial letters being so held back; and I have presumed to take this occasion to refer to the correspondence noted in the margin, which passed on subjects of almost similar character, *i. e.*, prepayment of letters for Bombay from Alexandria and Suez, and orders issued revising the rules for detention of insufficiently paid letters for the United Kingdom *via* Marseilles; and it is my belief that, if you approve, the present ground of complaint could be removed by a similar payment of postage due and levy of fine at place of destination.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

Circulars—Nos. 91 and 113 of 1858; 73 of 1859; 28 of 1861; Correspondence—your Office docket No. 567, of Feb. 9th 1860; that from this Office in May same year.

(Signed) E. T. BEAUVAIS,
Post Master.

Bombay General Post Office, 6th February 1862.

No. 531 OF 1862.

Copy forwarded to H. Brooke, Esq., Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, in reference to his letter No. 8, of 25th ultimo.

(Signed) E. T. BEAUVAIS,
Post Master.

Bombay General Post Office, 6th February 1862.

(Circular.)

No. 28 OF 1861.

Post Office Officials are hereby informed, that the Rule has been rescinded under which the prepayment of Letters between Great Britain and India was compulsory.

After the 1st of March it will be optional with the sender to prepay Letters addressed to Great Britain or to send

them unpaid. Unpaid or insufficiently paid letters will be forwarded, charged with a fine of four annas in addition to the ordinary postage.

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

Bombay, Post Master General's Office, 25th Feb. 1861.

No. 28. *Overland Letters to England.*—Compulsory prepayment rescinded.

No. 318 OF 1862.

To the SECRETARY to the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—In reply to your letters No. 1, dated 9th January, to my address, and No. 8, of 25th January, to that of the Post Master, Bombay, I have the honor to state that the Rules to which you refer have been rescinded since 1st March 1861. But you will perceive, from the copy of the orders on the subject attached, that they only apply to letters for Great Britain, not for Red Sea stations, as Suez, Cairo, and Alexandria; and although it would be, as you observe, quite as *easy* to levy double postage on the delivery of insufficiently paid letters in Egypt or elsewhere, I regret that it cannot be done (with every desire on my part to meet the wishes of the Chamber) without permission from Her Majesty's Post Master General in London.

2. This I will apply for. At the same time, it occurs to me, that the mercantile community have the remedy in their own hands. The postal rates on letters for Egypt have been extensively published, and are well known; and in matters of such extreme importance as telegrams (which are not very numerous), it is not, I submit, unreasonable to expect that the requirements of the Post Office should be studied and observed, especially as inattention to them throws the whole onus and odium on the Post Office.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) E. IMPEY,
Post Master General.

Post Master General's Camp, Indore, 14th February 1862.

No. 951 of 1862.

To H. Brooke, Esq.,

Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Sir,—In continuation of my memo. No. 531, of the 6th ultimo, to your address, relative to the representation from the Chamber of Commerce on subject of detention of letters for Egypt, &c., consequent on their being insufficiently paid, and with advertence to their importance, proposing a modification of the rules which at present obtain that such letters be not withheld, but despatched, bearing double postage or fine, I have the honor, by direction of the Post Master General, to beg you will convey to the Chamber of Commerce the expression of his regret that their proposition cannot be put in force without previous reference to the London General Post Office, and which will be made with the least possible delay.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) E. T. Beauvais,
Post Master.

Bombay General Post Office, 4th March 1862.

No. 1289 of 1862.

From E. Impey, Esq.,

Post Master General, Bombay,

To the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce,
Bombay.

Sir,—With reference to letter No. 951, dated the 4th March last, from the Post Master, Bombay, I have the honor to forward copy of one received from the London Postal Authorities, No. 27391, dated the 22nd April 1862.

2. The necessary reference on the subject has been made to the Director General of the Post Office in India.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) E. Impey,
Post Master General.

Camp, 10th June 1862.

No. 27391.

To E. IMPEY, Esq.,
Post Master General, Bombay.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th February last, No. 361, in which you recommended that the system of optional prepayment, as applied to letters between India and the United Kingdom, should be extended to letters between Bombay and Egypt, as great inconvenience has been found to result from the regulation which makes it compulsory to prepay the postage on letters posted at Bombay addressed to Alexandria; and I beg to inform you in reply, that this is a question which can be entertained only on representation from the Director General of the Post Office of India, as any such alteration of the present system as that proposed would, if adopted, necessarily be applicable to letters posted in India generally, and not to those posted in Bombay alone.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) J. TILLY.

London General Post Office, 22nd April 1862.

(True copy)

(Signed) BABAJEE SUDASHEW,
Head Assistant, for Post Master General.

APPENDIX U.

DELAY IN REPAIRING SHIPS IN THE GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD.

No. 4 of 1862.

To Commodore G. G. Wellesley, C.B., R.N.,
Commander in Chief of the Indian Navy, Bombay.

Sir,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to bring to your notice the extreme delay in repairing merchant ships in the Government Dockyard. At the present moment, there are five or six ships requiring repairs, and the greatest uncertainty exists as to the period when they may hope to enter the Dock.

The chief cause of this excessive delay is in the limitation of the work to those artisans and labourers who are regularly engaged by the Government, to the exclusion of all outside labour; and I am therefore directed respectfully to urge upon your attention whether the rule may not be abolished, or, at all events, relaxed, under proper guarantees, and at periods when applications for the use of the Dock may be numerous.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. Brooke,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 21st January 1862.

No. 373 OF 1862.

To the CHAIRMAN of the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—In acknowledging receipt of a letter, No. 4 of 1862, which the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce has addressed to me by direction of the Committee, on the subject of the extreme delay, as he expresses it, in repairing merchant ships in the Government Dockyard, I must beg leave to refer you to my letter to Government No. 100, of 29th January 1859, a copy of which was communicated to the Chamber of Commerce with Secretary Colonel Melvill's letter No. 231, of 12th February 1859, in which I stated the objections to the admission of merchant vessels into the Government Docks, and further pointed out the impossibility of undertaking their repairs by Government artificers without serious inconvenience to the public service.

2. What I therein stated as to the latter point is equally if not much more applicable to the present moment than it was then.

3. But the Committee now urge upon me not to limit the work required to be done to merchant vessels in Dock to those artisans and labourers who are regularly engaged by Government to the exclusion of all outside labour, but to abolish this rule, or at all events to relax it under proper guarantees.

4. This rule has been relaxed occasionally in special cases, and there is in fact a vessel at this moment in the Docks which is being repaired by artificers engaged by the ship's agent or commander. It is, however, a practice liable to lead to great irregularities, and I cannot undertake to consider it as one to be resorted to ordinarily, but only in cases of urgent necessity.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE G. WELLESLEY,
Commander in Chief Indian Navy.

Office of the Commander in Chief I. N., Bombay,
31*st January* 1862.

APPENDIX V.

RETIREMENT OF SIR G. R. CLERK.

To His Excellency Sir GEORGE RUSSELL CLERK, K.C.B.,
&c. &c. &c.

SIR,—The Committee of the Chamber of Commerce have desired me, on the occasion of your retirement from the Governorship of this Presidency, to express to your excellency how deeply sensible the Chamber is of your high personal worth and distinguished public services.

While regarding as an irreparable loss to India your resignation of an office you have filled with such honor to yourself and advantage to the people you have governed, the Chamber is glad to be able to congratulate your excellency on the satisfactory completion of that great work of financial retrenchment which, on assuming office, you rightly considered to be the first necessity of the State, and to the accomplishment of which your energetic and unsparing labors have largely contributed.

The Chamber cordially thanks your excellency for the personal frankness and urbanity of your bearing towards its Members, for the marked consideration always shown to its representations by the Government over which you have presided, and, more recently, for the appointment of one of its influential Members to a seat in the local Legislative Assembly. But the warmest acknowledgments of the Chamber are due to you for the strong encouragement and

support you have given to private enterprise, resulting in the favorable development within the last two years of several large undertakings of vast public utility.

It is mainly to your excellency's exertions that the transfer of North Canara to this Presidency has been effected, which, by opening the port of Sudasewghur, will, it is confidently anticipated, prove fruitful of the best advantages to the cotton trade of India.

It was with sincere regret, therefore, that the Chamber learnt that your excellency's health had been affected by the cares and responsibilities of your exalted position; but they hope your return to your native land will completely restore you, and that you may yet be able for many years to give the Government of India the benefit of your large experience and prudent counsels.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES N. FLEMING,
Chairman.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 22nd April 1862.

To JAMES N. FLEMING, Esq.,
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, conveying the expression of the sentiments of the Chamber of Commerce on my departure.

It must be gratifying to any public man to find that his conduct has been approved by the most influential members of the large community of Bombay. It is particularly so to me, because, to my regret, I have been here during so short a period as to be only sensible how much I leave unfinished. But the times have been difficult for us, or the Government would have done more. There certainly has been every other incentive to exertion; since, an year past, whatever the times may be, there never is any relaxation in that energy and enterprise, the success of which has steadily raised Bombay to rank among the most important commercial capitals in the world.

It requires only the application of some of the energy which is so conspicuous, and of the capital which is so abundant, here, to attain the advantages anticipated by the

Chamber of Commerce from the transfer of North Canara to this Presidency.

I am deeply sensible of the feeling which has prompted your good wishes for my health. Of this kindness, as well as of all other circumstances of our connection, I shall ever retain a most pleasing and grateful recollection.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) GEORGE CLERK.

Parell, 23rd April 1862.

RETIREMENT OF MR. JAMES GIBBS.

No. 21 OF 1862.

To JAMES GIBBS, Esq.,
Special Commissioner for Income-Tax, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—My colleagues in the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce have deputed me to express to you, before you leave India, the very high sense of obligation under which the commercial community especially feels itself placed, by the urbanity, tact, and judgment with which you have administered the invidious task of Commissioner of Income-tax.

The European community of this port, while recognising the necessity of increased taxation, cannot conceal from themselves the very many inconveniences that an income-tax, however carefully considered, must necessarily present to the tax-payer; but they cannot allow you to leave Bombay without expressing their belief that the facility with which so obnoxious a tax has been levied, the absence of complaint, and the general cheerfulness with which it has been paid, are in a great measure due to the happy selection made by Government in their Chief Commissioner.

In returning to your friends in England, I trust that the conviction that you bear with you the respect and attachment of all classes of the Bombay community will be some compen-

sation for the untiring zeal you have displayed in carrying on the duties of so peculiarly important an appointment.—I remain, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES N. FLEMING,
Chairman.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 19th February 1862.

No. 22 OF 1862.

To the CHIEF SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, Bombay.

SIR,—By direction of the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, I have the honor to hand you enclosed a letter to the address of James Gibbs, Esq., Special Commissioner of Income-Tax, expressive of the great satisfaction of the mercantile community at the considerate manner in which the income-tax has been brought into operation in Bombay, and to request the favor that His Excellency the Governor in Council will permit that gentleman to receive it previous to his departure from the Presidency.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) H. BROOKE,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, 21st February 1862.

No. 822 OF 1862.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

To H. BROOKE, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 22, dated the 21st instant, and to inform you that His Excellency the Governor in Council has much pleasure in permitting Mr. Gibbs to receive the address, submitted with your letter, expressing the great satisfaction of the mercantile community of Bombay at the manner in which he has carried out the Income-Tax Act.—I have the honor to be, &c.,

(Signed) A. D. ROBERTSON,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 27th February 1862.

To JAMES N. FLEMING, Esq.,
Chairman, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

MY DEAR SIR,—I am highly flattered by the receipt of your letter of the 19th instant, in which the Chamber of Commerce have been pleased to record their opinion of the manner in which I have performed the duties of Income-Tax Commissioner.

In administering the Act, I have had but one object in view—that of carrying out faithfully what I believed to be the wishes of Government; and if in so doing I have "acquired the respect and attachment of all classes of the Bombay community," I am indeed most fortunate. I beg to thank the Chamber for their very flattering notice of my services to Government, and can assure them that I highly appreciate the honor they have conferred on me.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) J. GIBBS.

27*th February* 1862.

LIST OF PAMPHLETS AND PAPERS received by the Chamber of Commerce during the Year 1861-62.

No.	TITLES.	Received from
1	Customs Consolidated and Amended Bill..	Government.
2	Stamp Duties, Consolidated and Amended Bill	Ditto.
3	Lighthouses and Beacons for Bombay Harbour, by Mr. Kennelly, Report on	Ditto.
4	Do. do. by Capt. W. C. Barker, I. N. ..	Ditto.
5	Indian Cotton, Requisites for Improvement of	Cotton Supply Association.
6	Sudasewghur, progress made in opening the Port of	Government.
7	Roads in the Punjab for facilitating Export Trade, Report on ..	Punjab Government.
8	British Indian Association, Report of	Association.
9	North Canara, principal works of the District of	Government.
10	Customs Revenue Report for 1860-61	Ditto.
11	Customs Trade Report ending 30th April 1862	Commissioner of Customs.
12	New Zealand ; Census of the Colony of	New Zealand Government.
13	Nagpoor Dawk Line, Report on	Government.
14	Cotton Cultivation in the Punjab	Punjab Government.
15	Shawl Trade, Report on	Henry Cope, Esq.
16	Rangoon Chamber of Commerce, Rules and Regulations of ..	Chamber.
17	Comoro Islands, Major Lewis Pelly's Observations on	Government.
18	Bengal, General Report of the Administration of	Ditto.

19	North-West Provinces, General Report of the Administration of	Government.
20	Telegraphic Transmission of Chinese Characters, Report on ..	Comte d'Escayrac DeLautare.
21	Sugar plantation at Zanzibar, Report on	Government.
22	Zanzibar and the Seychelle Islands, Passage between	Ditto.
23	Sale of Waste Lands, the Redemption of the Land Revenue, &c. Observations on the	W. F. Fergusson, Esq.
24	Cotton Cultivation in India; Report on Mr. Money's project ..	Manchester Chamber of Commerce.
25	Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of	Chamber.
26	Landholders and Commercial Association, Annual Report of ..	Association.
27	Indigo System in Lower Bengal	Rev. J. Long.
28	Taptee River, Irrigation from	Government.
29	Mysore; Catalogue of Articles contributed to the Exhibition by	Lieut. R. A. Cole.
30	Aerial Telegraph, Report on	Capt. Richard Sprye.
31	East India Carrying Company, Prospectus of	James Laurie, Esq.
32	Calcutta Commercial Annual Reports, from 1857 to 1861 ..	Chamber.
33	Cotton Cultivation in the North of China, Report on	D. Lamprey, Esq.
34	Bordeaux Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of	Chamber.
35	Indian Cotton Cultivation, Remarks on	C. J. Barter, Esq.
36	Cochin Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of	Chamber.
37	Bombay Gas Company; List of Subscribers	Company.
38	Agri-Horticultural Society of Western India, Annual Report of.	Society.
39	Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of	Chamber.
40	Capabilities of the River "Juba," Report on	Bombay Geographical Society.
41	Shipwrecked Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society, Annual Report of..	Society.
42	South Australian Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of ..	Chamber.
43	Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of	Ditto.

No.	TITLES.	Received from
44	Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of	Chamber.
45	Cotton Trade, Lecture on	Henry Dunlop, Esq.
46	Madras Chamber of Commerce, Annual Report of	Chamber.
47	Calcutta Agri-Horticultural Society, Journal of..	Society.

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